

The Leader.

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND COMMERCIAL WEEKLY NEWSPAPER,

AND

RECORD OF JOINT STOCK COMPANIES, BANKS, RAILWAYS, MINES SHIPPING, &c.

VOL. X. No. 464.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1859.

PRICE {UNSTAMPED...FIVEPENCE
Stamped.....Sixpence.

MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

(Established A.D. 1834).

No. 39, KING-STREET, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON.

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This is a purely Mutual Life Assurance Society, with a capital of 350,000 invested in Government and real securities, created entirely by the steady accumulation of the premiums, and all belonging to the members. The Assurances in force are 1,372,000, and the income 60,000, per annum.

The advantages offered by the Society are an annual division of profits. Every member shares in them after payment of two yearly premiums.

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The bonuses on the policies becoming claims have averaged more than 24 per cent. per annum.

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CHARLES INGALL, Actuary.

The Mutual Life Assurance Office, 39, King-street, Cheap-side, E.C.

BRITON LIFE ASSOCIATION.

Chief Office, 53, Moorgate-street, London, E.C.

The Policies issued by this Association become payable during the Assured's Lifetime without extra premium.

ANNUITIES and ENDOWMENTS granted, and every description of Life Assurance effected.

New Business for the Year ending Nov., 1858.

No. of Proposals.	Amount Proposed.	Policies Issued.	Amount Assured.	Annual Premiums thereon.
1976	£395,815	1342	£262,815	£8,228 14s. 6d.

Detailed Prospectuses, Annual Reports, and every information may be had on application.

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Agents are required in Unrepresented Districts.

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Loans granted at moderate rates.

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The following notice has been issued by

THE NATIONAL GUARANTEED MANURE COMPANY:

The Directors of the National Guaranteed Manure Company, Limited, are now prepared to issue the remainder of the 20,000l. Preference Stock, authorised by resolution of the last general meeting of shareholders. This stock bears a preference interest of 6 per cent. per annum, payable half-yearly. The company is in good working order, and its affairs have been investigated by an independent public accountant. The above sum will be expended in the extension of the company's trade. The business of 1858 nearly doubled that of 1857, and that of 1859 is expected to double that of 1858. More than one-fourth of the proposed sum was subscribed for at the general meeting of the shareholders; the list will therefore be closed in a short time. Parties desirous of subscribing are requested to apply to the secretary for the necessary forms.

By order of the Board.

F. BURBIDGE, Manager.

Office, 2, Moorgate-street, London.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

The Directors have to intimate that the books of the Society close, for the current year, at 1st March next, and that Proposals for Assurance lodged on or before that date will entitle Policies to one year's additional Bonus over later Entrants.

THE SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

(Instituted 1811.)

Incorporated by Special Act of Parliament.

The Fund accumulated from the Contributions of members exceeds ONE MILLION STERLING.

The Annual Revenue amounts to ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-TWO THOUSAND POUNDS.

The amount of existing Assurances exceeds FIVE MILLIONS.

The next Triennial Division of Profits will be made at 1st March, 1859.

ROBT. CHRISTIE, Manager.

WM. FINLAY, Secretary.

Head Office—20, St. Andrew-square, Edinburgh.

Office in London—25, Poultry.

Agent—ARCHD. T. RITCHIE.

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Insurance data show that ONE PERSON in every FIFTEEN is more or less injured by Accident yearly.

An Annual Payment of £3 secures

A FIXED ALLOWANCE OF £6 PER WEEK

IN THE EVENT OF INJURY, OR

£1000 IN CASE OF DEATH, FROM

ACCIDENTS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

By a policy in the

RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Which has already paid in compensation for Accidents £37,069.

Forms of Proposal and Prospectuses may be had at the Company's Office, and at all the principal Railway Stations, where, also, Railway Accidents alone may be insured against by the Journey or year.

NO CHARGE FOR STAMP DUTY.

CAPITAL, ONE MILLION.

WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary

Railway Passengers' Assurance Company.
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Thick do... 4 0 "	Large commercial envelopes... 4 0 "
Bordered note... 4 0 "	Large American buff envelopes... 3 6 "
Straw paper... 2 6 "	Foolscap paper... 7 0 per rm.
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MAPPIN'S Two Guinea DRESSING CASE, in solid Leather.

Ladies' TRAVELLING and DRESSING BAGS, from 2l. 12s. to 100l. each.

Gentlemen's do. do., from 3l. 12s. to 60l.

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Manufacture—QUEEN'S CUTLERY WORKS, SHEFFIELD.

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Warranted good by the Makers. Shave well for Twelve Months without Grinding.

MAPPIN'S 2s. RAZORS shave well for Three Years.

MAPPIN'S 3s. RAZORS (suitable for Hard or Soft Beards) Shave well for Ten Years.

MAPPIN BROTHERS, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield and 67, King William-street, City, London; where the largest Stock of Cutlery in the World is kept.

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Notice of Injunction. The admirers of this celebrated Fish Sauce are particularly requested to observe that none is genuine but that which bears the back label with the name of WILLIAM LAZENBY, as well as the front label signed "Elizabeth Lazenby," and that for further security, on the neck of every bottle of the Genuine Sauce will henceforward appear an additional label, printed in green and red, as follows:—This notice will be affixed to Lazenby's Harvey's Sauce, prepared at the original warehouse, in addition to the well-known labels, which are protected against imitation by a perpetual injunction in Chancery of 9th July, 1855. 6, Edwards-street, Portman-square, London.

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Variable instantaneously to any of four stages, from a warming power of 40 deg. down to 15 deg. A paper, describing the principles and right use of proper Respirators, and especially of this recent and important improvement, by the original Inventor of the Respirator, Mr. Jeffreys, may be obtained by post from J. B. Percival, Manager. Chief Office, 25, Bucklersbury, London; and of the Agents everywhere.

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By Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent.

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(All other kinds at the same rate.)

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55 by 43 in.	51 in. wide by 38 in. high from	51. 0s. each
58 by 46 in.	51 in. wide by 40 in. high from	51. 0s. each
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Mahogany dressing and cheval glasses, gilt cornices, girandoles, picture frames, &c., at equally moderate prices. Merchants and shippers supplied by special contract.

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The best for producing a clear and healthy skin; in packets of four tablets or eight squares. Brecknell's Glycerine Soap, for use when the skin is rough or chapped; in packets of four tablets, 1s. 6d.—BRECKNELL, TURNER, and SONS, manufacturers of Wax, Spermaceti, Stearin, Composite, and Tallow Candles to her Majesty; agents to Candles, all kinds of household and toilet Soaps, and in Colza, Sperm, Vegetable, and other Lamp Oils, &c. Bechies, 31, Haymarket, London.—N.B. Each tablet and square is stamped with the name of "Brecknell."

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248, High Holborn, opposite Day and Martin's. ALEX. ROSS'S LIQUID HAIR DYE is easily used, producing a perfect light or dark colour, permanently, to the hair, whiskers, and eyebrows, 3s. 6d. Sent free in blank wrapper, the same day as ordered, for 5s. stamps. Cantharides oil, a sure restorer of the hair, 3s. 6d. 1/2 hair curling fluid, 3s. 6d. Hints on Dress, and on the Arrangement of the Hair, 1s.; free for 15s. stamps. Wigs of perfect make and natural appearance, from 11. 10s.

THE LEADER.

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Review of the Week.

THE titles of nearly a score of bills on as many different subjects, entered on the books of the House of Commons, attest the activity of the present Ministry; whether they anticipate a long tenure of office or not, they have cut themselves out a good stiff piece of work, and they are vigorously setting about its accomplishment. The Lord Chancellor has brought in the first instalment of the measure referred to in the Royal Speech, abolishing the distinction between bankruptcy and insolvency. The measure will retain the present distinction between traders and non-traders, and the main effect of it will be to give the creditor much greater power over the estate of the debtor than he has at present; his facilities for the realisation of the debtor's estate will also be improved, and the estate will be relieved from the heavy official fees which now dip so deeply into it.

Two of the bills introduced by independent members have special claims on the interest of the House and on that of the country generally; these are Lord Bury's bill to legalise marriage with a deceased wife's sister, and Sir John Trelawny's bill for the total abolition of church-rates. Lord Bury's motion for leave to introduce his bill was carried by the large majority of 155 to 85, indicating the progress which is being made towards a settlement of the difficulties which at present beset this important subject. After the decisive manner in which the House of Commons pronounced itself last session on Sir John Trelawny's bill, the introduction of the bill has naturally awakened lively hopes of its more successful passage through the Upper House. The answer of Mr. Secretary Walpole sets one point at rest: the bill will not be opposed by Government, if the second reading is not unduly pressed, to do which, in the present state of the question, there can be no necessity.

An answer given by Sir John Pakington to Sir Charles Napier, draws attention to a fact which is too little considered by gentlemen asking for all sorts of returns; to prepare these returns costs no small sum of money. The papers asked for by Sir Charles Napier, for example, will cost the country 500*l*.

A question put to Sir John Pakington has drawn forth something like data upon which to calculate the probable advent of the Reform Bill. "You'll be disappointed if you expect to see it before the First Lord of the Admiralty has made his statement," said Mr. Disraeli to Lord Palmerston; the navy estimates will be presented on the 25th of the present month, said Sir John Pakington to Lord John Russell; "argal," we may look for the introduction of the great measure sometime early in March. The interval will not be inactively spent by the movers in the Reform question out of the

House. Already the stream of petitions has begun to flow in upon the House; and "demonstrations," in favour of Mr. Bright's measure for the most part, are the order of the day. Not the least remarkable of recent occurrences in connexion with Reform is the letter of Richard Cobden, addressed to the Ballot Society, excusing himself from attending the annual dinner of that body. Mr. Cobden draws a parallel between the course of Mr. Bright since he has taken charge of the Reform Bill, and his own course in connexion with the Anti-Corn-Law League. Both, he says, have been subjected to the same sort of misrepresentation and clamorous opposition; and he anticipates the same sort of triumph for his friend as was ultimately achieved by himself. Mr. Cobden confirms a report which has been for some time past in circulation, to the effect that he is about to visit the United States. "I hope," he says in his letter, "to be able to report to you that I have witnessed the operation of the ballot in that country." His testimony, either way, will be highly valuable.

The news from Ionia is notable. Her Majesty has answered the Memorial from the Ionian Islands praying for annexation to the kingdom of Greece, and has refused to grant its prayer. Mr. Gladstone has, therefore, addressed another message to the Ionian Parliament, calling upon it to set itself calmly to work for the accomplishment of certain necessary reforms; but that body has taken time to consider what answer it will return to the British Lord High Commissioner. The dilemma is one of peculiar difficulty; no doubt the Ionians are perfectly in earnest, and not at all unreasonable, in their desire to cast off the protection of England; but, on the other hand, England is at the present moment specially bound to maintain inviolate the treaty engagements entered into by her in 1815.

Very little news is brought by the Calcutta mail. The most important announcement is that the Punjab, the Delhi territory, the "Trans-Sutlej" and "Cis-Sutlej" states are to form a separate Lieutenant-Governorship. By the Bombay mail, which arrived a few days earlier, we learn that the first half of the Oude campaign is successfully finished, what remains to be done being rather the work of the constable than of the soldier. Tantia Topce still figures as the chief of the rebels remaining in the field; and once more we have the intelligence of his having been fallen on and beaten, but it is followed by the old announcement, that he managed to avoid capture. A scrap of news from China suggests the possibility of more interesting news to follow. Lord Elgin with his steam flotilla has ascended above Nankin, though upon what errand bound, we are left in doubt. Whatever it is, the French Ambassador and the Chinese Commissioners have delayed their departure from Canton until the results are known.

From the Continent the news is still of warlike

preparation, the latest alarm being that Russia is arming! The speech of Napoleon III., which was looked for as the index of the probable course of events, has not settled the question on the side of peace. It is in vain that the Imperial speaker once more declared that "*L'Empire d'est la paix!*" The tenor of the speech is not peaceful; and when coupled, as it is, almost universally with the manifesto of M. de la Guéronnière, it conveys no sort of assurance that war is not at this moment determined on. The Paris papers during the week have been busily attempting to show that war is all but impossible, as being utterly opposed to the known and obvious policy of the Emperor; but against their word we may place the curious fact that, in all the printshops and booksellers' windows there is exposed, by tacit permission, at least of the police, a coloured map, entitled "Map of Europe for 1860." In this map an entirely new partition of Europe is suggested: France modestly retains its present boundaries—perhaps to reassure the rest of the great Powers as to the perfect disinterestedness of its foreign policy; the whole of Northern Italy is given to Piedmont, Austria being compensated by the gift of Bosnia and Servia. A good many minor changes in the present arrangement of the European sovereignties are suggested; but enough has been noted to indicate the ideas that find countenance at least in imperial Paris.

A much franker mode of dealing with the events of the present hour is adopted by Count Cavour. Speaking on the subject of the loan of 2,000,000*l*, which has just been voted, he says, "Our policy is not defiant; we will not excite to war, but neither will we lower our voice when Austria arms herself and threatens us." In a circular addressed by him to the diplomatic agents abroad, he has drawn a striking picture of the war measures taken by Austria at the beginning of the present year. In the first days of January an entire *corps d'armée* of 30,000 men was despatched into Italy, and for many days "the left bank of the Ticino presented the appearance of a country in which war is about to break out," and many other circumstances occurred to strengthen the like supposition. The loan is avowedly, therefore, to meet the demonstrations of Austrian power. "Piedmont," Count Cavour further says, "strong in her good right, and aided by the allies which the justice of her cause can alone procure her, is ready to combat every element of disorder in the peninsula, from whatever quarter it may come—from Austria or from the revolution." This is no vain boast; the loan was voted by 116 against 35; the feeling in Sardinia is for war, and the Government is straining every nerve to get itself in readiness to take the field. One of the latest facts confirmatory of this view is that her agents are busily engaged in buying horses in Switzerland.

Austria is not turned from her purpose of preparing for eventualities by the pacific utterances of emperors and queens, contradicted as they are by facts apparent to all the world. After providing for the defence of her Italian territories, she has moved into Austria proper a very large part of the army of

Hungary, entertaining seemingly no dread of dangerous eventualities in that direction. Against France she makes a special demonstration: she is collecting her men-of-war at Pola, as an answer to the preparations of Toulon and Marseilles.

The home news of the week is very scanty. In the Court of Queen's Bench an action has been brought by Lieutenant-Colonel Dickson, late of the Tower Hamlets Militia, against the Earl of Wilton, for a libel, in which the Earl has accused Colonel Dickson of misappropriating the regimental funds. The case occupied nearly the whole of Thursday, and was not finished yesterday, and promises to be one of the many remarkable money cases that have been heard in the law courts of late. Mr. Thomas Duncombe's account of the vexations to which the Earl of Wilton was exposed, as commanding officer of the Tower Hamlets Militia, is full of grim humour. At present the case seems to be suggestive of strong doubts as to the system upon which regimental accounts are regulated.

Home Intelligence.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Monday, February 7.

LAW OF DEBTOR AND CREDITOR.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, the LORD CHANCELLOR introduced an instalment of the Government measure for effecting an alteration in the law of debtor and creditor. It is at present proposed to abolish the distinction between insolvency and bankruptcy, but to retain in practice the distinction between traders and non-traders; to specify the cases in which debtors of the latter class should not be protected from imprisonment; to invest the creditors of a trader with power to appoint their own non-official assignee; and to facilitate arrangements for the liquidation of debts. The payment of fees to officials is also to be done away with, by regulations not yet explained.—Lords BROUGHAM and CAMPBELL gave a general, but not unreserved approval to the bill.—After some observations from Lord CRANWORTH, the bill was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.

Their Lordships adjourned at seven o'clock.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, on the motion of Sir W. JOLLIFFE, a new writ was ordered to issue for Oxford University, in the room of Mr. Gladstone.

THE GOVERNMENT REFORM BILL.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE having inquired when the Government intended to introduce their promised Reform Bill, Mr. DISRAELI said it was impossible for him to say when the navy and some other estimates would be disposed of; but he hoped not only to take the opinion of the House on the second reading of that bill, but to make some progress in committee before Easter.—Mr. BRIGHT said the public wanted time to consider the bill before its second reading. Would the Government not name a night for the simple introduction of the measure?—Mr. DISRAELI declined any further promise.

SIR J. D. PAUL AND MR. STRAHAN.

—In answer to a question put by Mr. SHERIDAN, whether it was intended to pardon Sir John Dean Paul and Mr. Strahan, Mr. WALPOLE explained the extreme complication of the question, and the painful position in which he was placed by unfounded representations made to him, and stated that, in endeavouring to lay down some rule, in the dilemma in which he was placed by the state of the law, he must take especial care to draw no distinction between rich and poor.

SPECIAL FORMS OF PRAYER.

The second reading of the Occasional Forms of Prayer Bill having been moved by Mr. WALPOLE, Mr. HADFIELD moved, as an amendment, that the second reading should be deferred for six days. He thought that a much more extensive excision should be made from the Liturgy, and wished to afford the Government further time to consider the subject.—Mr. NEWDEGATE seconded the amendment.—Mr. ROEBUCK wished to have the bill passed without unnecessary delay.—Mr. GREGSON and Mr. WALPOLE having briefly spoken, the bill was read a second time.

ENDOWED SCHOOLS.

Leave was given to Mr. DILLVYN to bring in a bill to amend the law relating to endowed schools.

SUPERANNUATION.

The Civil Service Superannuation Bill of last session, with some amendments, was reintroduced by Mr. DISRAELI. Mr. WILSON considered the measure still defective, and several other members urged that it ought to include the dockyard servants, whose case, Mr. DISRAELI said, was provided for by an Admiralty order. Some comments and suggestions on this subject were offered by Mr. Wilson, Mr. Kinglake, Sir H. Willoughby Mr. Collier, and other members. The motion was then agreed to, and leave given to bring in the bill.

GOVERNMENT IRISH BILLS.

Leave was given to the Attorney-General for Ireland

to introduce three bills—for abolishing manor courts in Ireland, to facilitate the sale and transfer of land in Ireland, and for the abolition of receivers under the Court of Chancery in Ireland.—Lord NAAS also obtained leave to bring in two bills, one for the regulation of markets in Ireland, and the other to consolidate and amend the laws relating to the lunatic poor in that country.—Sir R. FERGUSON for a bill to facilitate internal communication in Ireland by means of tram-roads.

The House adjourned at a quarter to eight o'clock.

Tuesday, February 8th.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, Viscount DUNGAISON brought forward a clerical grievance—the state of dilapidation in which new incumbents often find their rectories and glebe houses.—The Bishop of LONDON said a remedy was in contemplation by the episcopal bench.

IMMIGRATION AT JAMAICA.

Lord BROUGHAM inquired whether the Royal assent had been given to the Immigration Act recently passed by the Jamaica Legislature. He believed that the bill had been carried almost by surprise, and was open to very grave objections.—The Earl of CARNARVON stated that the act had not yet received the Royal assent, but would shortly be submitted by the Colonial Secretary for confirmation by her Majesty. The measure, he contended, was neither objectionable nor new. The immigration system had existed for many years, and the present bill would merely extend to Jamaica the application of a principle already adopted with the best effect in other West India colonies.—Some discussion ensued, in which Lord Brougham, Earl Grey, the Earl of Airlie, and other peers participated. The subject then dropped, and the House adjourned at a quarter past six o'clock.

NEW MEMBERS.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. ADAMS and the LORD ADVOCATE took their seats on re-election. New writs were ordered for the boroughs of Greenwich and of Enniskillen.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

In reply to Sir H. WILLUGHBY, the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER stated that the whole of the building in Trafalgar-square, commonly called the National Gallery, would speedily be appropriated for the reception of the national collection of paintings. The members of the Royal Academy intended to erect a fitting edifice for their purposes with their own fund, but upon a site which the Government designed to ask the permission of Parliament to offer them. As Marlborough House was required for the Prince of Wales, the Vernon, Turner, and Sheepshanks collection would be temporarily removed to a gallery now in course of erection at Kensington Gore.

EXCHEQUER BILLS.

In answer to Sir G. LEWIS, the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said it was true that there had been a funding of Exchequer bills to the amount of 7,600,000*l.*, under the authority of the Commissioners of Savings-banks—an operation which had been often had recourse to.

MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

VISCOUNT BURY moved for leave to bring in a bill to legalise marriage with a deceased wife's sister.—The motion was opposed by Mr. B. HOPE.—On a division there appeared: For the motion, 155; against, 85; majority, 70. Leave was therefore given to bring in the bill.

Lord STANLEY stated, in reply to Sir ERSKINE PERRY, that it is intended to erect an India House at the West End.

MIDNIGHT SITTINGS.

Mr. W. EWART moved a resolution providing that on every Tuesday and Thursday, being nights on which Government business does not take precedence, the House should not sit later than midnight.—Mr. LAURIE seconded the motion.—Mr. LOCKE KING wished to include Government nights also in the same limitation as to time.—The HOME SECRETARY opposed the motion, which he considered unfair to private members, whose opportunities for bringing forward subjects or advancing bills were already much restricted.—Lord PALMERSTON likewise considered it inadvisable for the House to bind itself by any self-denying ordinance not absolutely necessary.—The motion, upon a division, was negatived by 237 to 28.

THE MUTINIES AT MEERUT AND UMBALLA.

Colonel SYKES moved an address for copies of correspondence and of the proceedings of the court-martial at Meerut in April, 1857, upon eighty-five troopers of the 3rd Light Cavalry, and of correspondence and other documents relating to the 36th Regiment of Bengal Native Infantry having at Umballah, in March or April, 1857, expelled from their caste those of their comrades engaged in learning the Enfield rifle practice. He detailed at considerable length the facts connected with the transactions in question, contending that the papers already laid before the House gave an imperfect and a partial view of them.—Lord STANLEY promised to write to India for the papers, but recommended that the motion should be in the mean time withdrawn.—Colonel Sykes withdrew his motion.

Sir J. TRELAWNY obtained leave to bring in a bill for the abolition of church-rates.

PAUPER SETTLEMENT.

Mr. S. ESTCOURT moved for a select committee to consider the operation of the Act 9 and 10 Victoria, cap. 66, which enacts that no poor person shall be removable who shall have resided five years in any parish, and of the Acts 10 and 11 Victoria, cap. 110, and 11 and 12 Victoria, cap. 110, which enact that the relief given to such irremovable persons shall be charged upon the common fund of the union. He showed the unsatisfactory position of the questions of settlement and removal under the existing law, and urged that the inquiries of the committee would throw a light upon one branch of the great subject.—Mr. AYRTON intimated his intention to bring the whole subject before the House, considering the question of the area of rating closely connected with that of settlement.—The motion was agreed to.

SALE OF POISONS.

Mr. WALPOLE moved for leave to bring in a bill to regulate the keeping and sale of poisons. The proposed regulations, he said, were founded upon the provisions of the Arsenic Act, which had, to a certain extent, succeeded; but the occurrences at Bradford had proved that they were not sufficient to prevent mistakes. Provisions were necessary to counteract an effect of the Arsenic Act, which induced persons to resort to other poisons. It was a difficult question to determine what articles to include under the denomination of "poisons." He had reduced the list to thirteen. Leave was given to introduce the bill.

Mr. ALCOCK obtained leave to bring in a bill for the voluntary commutation of church-rates.

Mr. W. EWART moved for the reappointment of the Select Committee on Colonisation and Settlement in India. The motion was agreed to.

ELECTIONS.

Mr. COLLINS obtained leave to bring in a bill to assimilate the time of proceeding to election and polling in England, Ireland, and Scotland; to limit the time of proceeding to election during recess; and for vacating seats by bankrupt members of the House of Commons; and for other election purposes.

After some further business, the House adjourned at half-past seven o'clock.

Wednesday, February 9.

The HOUSE OF COMMONS met at noon, when the report from the Committee of Supply was brought up and agreed to. Some returns were ordered, and the House adjourned after a brief sitting.

Thursday, February 10.

NEW PEER.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, the Earl of RIBON (late Lord Goderich) took the oaths and his seat.

THE PRINCIPALITIES.

The Earl of ST. GERMAN wished to know whether it was not the opinion of the Government that the election of one person to the position of Hospodar of Wallachia and Moldavia was contrary to the Convention of Paris, of August, 1856.—The Earl of MALMESBURY stated that it would not be of advantage to the public interest to discuss the question in its present position.

Their Lordships then passed the Law of Property and Trustees' Relief Amendment Bill through committee.

WINDING-UP ACTS.

The LORD CHANCELLOR called the attention of the House to a measure for amending the Winding-up Act. Having briefly reviewed the various acts of Parliament on the subject, he stated that the main object of the present bill was the consolidation of all previous acts. He proposed to retain all former regulations, and to extend the advantages of the proposed bill to all companies, especially insurance companies, which, under present circumstances, were excluded from the operation of former acts.

Lord BROUGHAM agreed with the principle of consolidation advocated by the proposer of the bill.

Their Lordships then adjourned at five minutes to six o'clock.

NEW WRITS.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS new writs were moved for East Worcestershire, in the room of Colonel Rushton, who had been created a peer as Baron Northwick; for the West Riding of Yorkshire, in the room of Lord Goderich, who had succeeded to the Earldom of Ribon; and for Hythe, in the room of Sir J. Ramsden, who had accepted the Chiltern Hundreds.

A great number of petitions were presented for the repeal of the paper duties.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL asked when the navy estimates would be presented, and Sir JOHN PAKINGTON answered on Friday, the 25th inst.

Mr. SPOONER asked whether *The Garden of the Soul* is issued to soldiers by the authority and at the expense of the State?—General PREL replied that, as the Prayer-book of Roman Catholics, it is distributed to soldiers of that persuasion, and the cost included in the grant of 2000*l.* for religious books to the army.

SUGAR DUTIES.

In reply to Mr. HANKEY, the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said there was not at present the slightest foundation for the report that it was his intention to deal with the sugar duties.

Lord NAAS moved for leave to bring in a bill for con-

solidating and amending the laws relating to county prisons in Ireland. He gave a succinct explanation of its provisions.—Some objections were raised by Colonel FRENCH, which were replied to by Lord NAAS, and leave was given to introduce the bill.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

Mr. CROSS moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law relating to municipal elections. The existing provisions for preventing bribery at these elections, he observed, were a dead letter, chiefly owing to the severity of the penalty. He proposed to substitute a small penalty and a summary remedy.—After a few remarks in favour of the object of the bill by Sir G. PARNELL, Mr. DILLWYN, Mr. RIDLEY, and Mr. GRIFFITH, leave was given.

STATUTE LAW COMMISSION.

Mr. L. KING, in moving for some returns respecting the Statute Law Commission, complained of the slow progress that had been effected towards consolidating the code, urging that the results hitherto achieved by the Commissioners had not repaid their cost.—Mr. HADFIELD added some observations to a similar effect.—The HOME SECRETARY consented to produce the papers asked for, with some exceptions. He concurred in the opinions expressed regarding the Statute Law Commissioners, whose operations, he remarked, the Government was considering whether they ought not to suspend for the present.

Mr. GREER moved for copies of the judgments in the Rolls and Chancery Courts in Ireland in a suit by the Rev. Dr. O'Fay against Major Burke, in relation to an agreement for a lease.—Lord NAAS made a statement explanatory of the case and its circumstances, and Mr. GREER withdrew his motion.

Mr. COREY brought up the Navy Estimates. After some further business, the House adjourned at a quarter to six o'clock.

GATHERINGS FROM LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

In the Common Pleas, an action brought by a lodging-house keeper against Mr. Tallis, the printer, for a nuisance caused by the working of a steam-engine and printing-machine in Arundel-street, resulted in a nominal verdict of 40s. for the plaintiff, subject to a reference to an engineer to see if the nuisance could be removed.

In the Court of Bankruptcy, upon the application for certificates of George and James Prince, who kept the Prince's Club, in Regent-street, the Commissioner ordered that certificates of the third class only should issue on the 10th of June next, that being a period of five years from the date of their bankruptcy, during which time, in consequence principally of the imperfect manner in which the bankrupts had kept their books, they had been before the court. His honour remarked in strong terms upon the gross irregularities by which the case was characterised.

At the Middlesex Sessions, Louis Manchot, a Frenchman, has been convicted of stealing a cigar-case and a set of surgical instruments, the property of Robert Harper, in his dwelling-house, and also of another similar robbery. The prisoner's practice was to call at the houses of professional gentlemen and taking the opportunity of stealing whatever he could lay his hands upon. The Assistant Judge characterised the prisoner as a wholesale thief, and sentenced him to five years' penal servitude. The prisoner said he had been at New York, and should like to be sent back. The Judge doubted whether he would be welcome on the other side of the Atlantic.

A man who gave the name of William W. Chandler was placed at the bar of Bow-street police-court, charged with a number of forgeries for considerable sums of money on various persons. Evidence was heard in support of some of the charges, and it was intimated that others would be brought forward on a future day. The prisoner, reserving his defence, was then remanded.

"The Mercantile Loan Fund Association" were brought on remand before Mr. Corrie, at Clerkenwell police-court, charged with conspiracy to defraud. The persons in custody, and who did business for their dupes under the above title, at Weymouth-terrace, New North-road, Islington, are John Reed, alias Campbell, Samuel Thompson, Ann Thompson, and Thomas Smith. Their operations seem to have extended all over the country; and, under colour of granting loans, they received advances of money for agents' travelling expenses to institute inquiry and for other purposes. The prisoners are again remanded.

The Keats divorce case has at length come to a termination. Before the Court of Appeal, on Saturday, arguments were urged for and against the plea of condonation. The Lord Chancellor delivered judgment in favour of Mr. Keats. The marriage was then dissolved, Mr. Keats agreeing to allow his wife the sum of 150*l.* for life.

A somewhat remarkable trial took place in the Court of Exchequer, on Wednesday. Mr. Richardson, a solicitor, on behalf of his wife, brought an action for slander against Dr. Granville, the well-known physician, and Mrs. Granville. The latter, who was the real defendant, had made very serious imputations upon Mrs. Richardson's character, and although "Dr." Granville ex-

pressed his great regret at what had been said, that lady felt it to be necessary to vindicate her reputation in a court of law. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, damages, 40*s.*

A curious action has been tried in the Court of Common Pleas, in which a Mrs. Thomas sued Nal Abut Allie, a gentleman connected with the suite of the Prince of Oude, for 23*l.* for board and lodging. It appeared the defendant met the plaintiff's niece on a Sunday, and married her on the Tuesday. He lavished a good sum of money upon her, and gave her plenty of funds to pay every expense. The defendant's counsel said the action was an infamous attempt to rob the defendant, and the jury found a verdict in his favour.

At the Court of Bankruptcy an inquiry was instituted into the conduct of Messrs. Sleaman and Keen, silk manufacturers, of Cheapside, with reference to their obtaining silk in bulk from several wholesale houses, and obtaining advances upon the warrants of the same from the London Joint-stock Bank. The inquiry resulted in Mr. Commissioner Foulque suspending the certificate (second class) of Sleaman for twelve months, and that of Keen (third class) for two years.

We are glad to find that under the provisions of the new Medical Registration Act there is a prospect of rooting out some of the quacks who prey upon the public at present. A case has been tried in the Westminster County Court—*Mary Scattergood v. J. G. Bennett*, alias Dr. Coulston—in which the plaintiff sought to recover 5*l.* 5*s.* from the defendant, a notorious quack, trading under various aliases. The amount had been obtained from the plaintiff (who was only one of numerous victims) under the pretext of curing her of deafness. Having given her a bottle of mixture (totally useless), receiving five guineas for the same, the *soi-disant* "Dr. Coulston" was from that time invisible on her repeated calls for further advice. Two years afterwards she accidentally discovered him under the title of "Dr. Walters," and brought this action. The defendant and his brother carried on an extensive trade in advertising nostrums for nervousness, deafness, &c. The remedy for nervousness, upon the receipt of so many postage stamps, consisted of a pill made up of new bread and plums, dusted over with flour, and ordered to be taken with caution, one at a time. In an advertisement inserted in a weekly paper it was set forth that, in return for six postage stamps, a preparation would be sent making ladies' skins like that of children of ten years of age. He also passed by the names of "Dr. Singleton" and "Dr. Ludies." In his defence he swore that he had never seen the plaintiff before in his life, and that there was a real, existent "Dr. Coulston," to whom his brother had acted as an assistant, and that Coulston had been subpoenaed to give evidence on the present occasion; no such person, however, appeared. The Judge said there could be no doubt but that there had been a conspiracy and fraud committed, and he should issue a verdict for the plaintiff, the defendant at the same time to be taken into custody for perjury.

The case of Mallue v. Lyon, which has been tried in the Court of Queen's Bench before Lord Campbell, presents some singular features. The facts are as follow:—In 1848, Mr. Lyon, a gentleman of fortune, married a daughter of Lady Charlotte Bury, at Florence, and settled upon her an income of 300*l.* per annum. They returned to England, and lived happily together for a few years, when it was discovered that Mrs. Lyon had contracted an unfortunate taste for stimulants. The propensity gained such an ascendancy over her that in the winter of 1852 it was beyond all control, and for some mysterious purpose she pledged her husband's plate to the extent of 3500*l.* In the beginning of 1853 the lady was placed at Torquay, apart from her husband, under the care of a medical gentleman named Deakin. In the autumn of the same year her intellect, which had been in a very impaired condition, was so far recovered that she executed, in the presence of her mother, a deed of separation, by which Mr. Lyon granted her an annuity of 1300*l.*, making, with the 300*l.* per annum already secured by the marriage settlement, a clear income of 1600*l.* per annum. In 1858 Mrs. Lyon instituted a suit in the Divorce Court for a restitution of conjugal rights, and her husband consented to a decree. By this proceeding the deed was, of course, repudiated on both sides. The subsequent conduct of the husband was malignant. He took a house in Gloucester-place to receive his wife, but obstinately treated her as still insane, and placed her under the guard of two female keepers, forbidding them to allow her mother to cross the threshold. In consequence of this treatment, the lady, who had only entered the house on the 26th of last May, quitted on the 1st of the following month, and has resided with her mother ever since. A ladies' outfitter, named Mallue, between the beginning of April, 1857, and the end of June, 1858, supplied goods to Mrs. Lyon. The balance due to him on account of these transactions amounted to 362*l.*, which he sought to recover from Mr. Lyon by this action. The jury found a verdict against Mr. Lyon for 125*l.*

The appeals from the decision of the Master of the Rolls in the extraordinary case of *Thellusson v. Thellusson* came before the House of Lords on Thursday. There was a great muster of the noble law lords present, and many of the common law judges attended, whose assist-

ance had been requested. The hearing was not completed.

An action for libel, brought by Lieutenant-Colonel Dickson against the Earl of Wilton, was tried in the Court of Queen's Bench on Thursday. The Earl was Colonel of the Tower Hamlets Militia, and the plaintiff was Lieutenant-Colonel. The libel complained of was contained in a letter written to Lord Combermere, the Governor of the Tower, by the defendant, in which he charged the plaintiff with having misappropriated part of the sums subscribed for the purposes of the mess, and added that Colonel Dickson's conduct was such that he appeared to be a mere spy, by his reporting the conduct of the other officers of the regiment, and that therefore he (Lord Wilton) advised Colonel Dickson's removal from the regiment. The case occupied the whole day, and was not concluded.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

FRAUDS to a considerable amount are discovered to have been perpetrated by Mr. James Pursell, who was formerly connected with the firm of Messrs. Pursell, the confectioners, in Cornhill. As exaggerated rumours are afloat it may be useful to state the facts. It appears that having received genuine leases from two of the City companies, he proceeded to procure copies of them, and affixing forged seals obtained advances thereon in various directions. The amount of his frauds is found to be about 30,000*l.*, but fortunately is spread over a wide circle, and in no individual instance is the loss considerable. The property the delinquent leaves behind him has been promptly taken possession of by his creditors, and will of course reduce the claims in question.

A young girl, named Hall, who had been on terms of intimacy with the national schoolmaster at Winlaton, in Northumberland, became *enraptured*. She was sent to Darlington for the purpose of being confined, but soon after her arrival there she fell ill, and died. Her remains were sent back to Winlaton for interment, and were on Wednesday about to be consigned to the grave. As the funeral procession was proceeding through the village to the churchyard, the mourners were abruptly stopped by the police, and ordered to return with the corpse. Suspicion, it was understood, pointed to the administration of poisonous drugs, with the object of procuring abortion. The schoolmaster was taken into custody.

IRELAND.

On Tuesday, Mr. Edmund Hayes, Q.C., was sworn in a Justice of the Queen's Bench, Mr. Francis Fitzgerald as a Baron of the Exchequer, and Mr. John George as Solicitor-General.

Extensive preparations are making for a Tipperary demonstration in favour of Reform, the ballot, and tenant-right. It is to come off at Thurles, and is to be, according to promise, a revival of the O'Connell monster meetings. Eight or ten members of Parliament are expected to attend. The proceedings are to be concluded with a banquet to the O'Donoghue, the representative for the county.

The recent relaxation of the statutes of Trinity College, by which the Roman Catholic youth are no longer debarred from some share in the substantial honours of the University, is beginning to tell favourably, and a little more liberality in the same direction would, no doubt, put an end to all rivalry between Alma Mater and the essentially sectarian establishment of Archbishop Cullen, the Catholic university.

Lord Eglington has contributed 100*l.* to the fund for the purchase of works of art for the new National Gallery of Ireland.

Preparations are in progress for the establishment of the Bank of Dublin. The prospectus is to appear shortly, under, it is said, favourable auspices.

The pursuit after Delany, the murderer of Mr. Ely, was taken up on Wednesday by forty of the Waterford police. They proceeded to Kilmeaden, crossed over to Mount Congreve, and scoured the woods, having been informed that he had earthed there. They were accompanied by a mounted policeman, and after a fatiguing day's chase, they returned in the evening without the game. Next morning a similar number renewed the hunt, and were alike unsuccessful.

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

A COLLISION took place in St. George's Channel on Monday between the Prince Patrick steamer and the iron schooner *Elfin*. The latter immediately sank, and the master, his wife and child, and two seamen went down with her and perished.

A correspondent of the *Times* gives an account of a fearful accident in the Scottish Highlands. He says: "It will probably interest many who may be familiar with the Crinan Canal, when taking this picturesque route to Oban and the North Highlands, to hear the particulars of the late disaster, which in less than half an hour has nearly destroyed this great work. Its loss will very much affect the rising prosperity of this part of the west coast, as well as the convenience of multitudes of tourists. Among the hills which hem in this

part is a chain of natural locks, which serve as reservoirs for supplying the canal. After an unprecedented wet season, on the evening of the 2nd, about eight o'clock, one of these reservoirs, becoming overcharged, suddenly burst and precipitated itself into the one beneath, which also giving way, the contents of both bounded into a third, and, with a roar which shook the country for miles round, an avalanche of water, rocks, and earth rolled down the mountain side, furrowing a deep watercourse in its way, and instantly obliterating the canal under a mountain of thousands of tons of rocks and stones. The vast body of water, separating into two great tide waves, rolled away to the east and west, breaking up lock-gates like tinder; and, tunneling vast chasms through the banks, the waters found vent over the open country, the one by the town of Lochgilphead into Loch Fyne, the other over the Crinan moor into the sea. Though the loss of property is at present incalculable, yet, most miraculously, there has not been a single life lost, though the alarm of the people of Lochgilphead may be conceived when they heard the distant howling of the torrent and rolling and grating of rocks, and then saw through the darkness of the night the moving flood all around them. For two miles the canal is destroyed, the banks being cut up by chasms like railway cuttings; but the remaining portions, about four miles at either end, are intact, though probably injured by the quantity of mud injected into them.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

THE Nankin, 50, Commodore the Hon. Keith Stewart, has arrived in the river Thames, after four years' service in China. Being in a perfect state of efficiency and discipline, she is of course to be dismantled and paid off immediately. Vice-Admiral Harvey, the Commander-in-Chief at Sheerness, expressed his approbation of the general order of the ship, especially her practice and efficiency in gunnery, stating that it was "the best firing he had seen for many years." This admirable body of artillerymen, according to the present rules of the navy, are to be at once dispersed to take fresh service where they may.

Lectures are being given at Woolwich on subjects tending to develop a most useful branch of study in the subordinate ranks of the Artillery. In addition to the lectures already given on gunnery by Colonels Wilford and Wilmot, a course of lectures has been commenced by officers of the chemical department of the Royal Laboratory.

A court-martial has been held on board the Victory flag-ship to try Lieutenant Henry Moore, commanding her Majesty's gunboat Sandfly, for having behaved in an unofficerlike manner by striking Mr. Charles Ford, boatswain of H.M.S. Cornwallis, and doing duty on board the Sandfly. The second charge imputed drunkenness to the prisoner. The prisoner was acquitted on the second charge, but the court was of opinion that the first charge was proved. Doubts, however, being entertained as to whether great provocation might not have been given, and considering his high previous character, the court only adjudged him to be severely reprimanded.

Satisfactory experiments have been made during the past week with a view to test the efficacy of the alterations recently made in the gunboat shipway at Haslar, so as to expedite the landing of the gunboats when occasion may require it.

A remarkable sloop-of-war has been launched by the American Government, at the Philadelphia Navy-yard. She is 208 feet in length, 33 feet beam, and depth of hold 14 feet, and carries 1200 tons; she will mount four guns of 11 inches diameter.

The greatest activity continues in every department of the dockyards. Several additional first-rates are nearly ready for sea; the Royal Sovereign, 131, is in a very forward state at Portsmouth; the Galatea, screw steam-frigate, at Woolwich, has had an additional number of hands put on her; the Hood, 91, is being hastened towards completion, and is expected to be launched next month.

On Monday, at Chatham, corporal punishment was inflicted on a private of the Royal Marine Light Infantry, named Thiers, who was tried by court-martial, on a charge of striking Sergeant Grady, in a public-house in the town, on the occasion of that officer being called in to quell a disturbance. The court adjudged the prisoner to receive fifty lashes, and afterwards to be imprisoned in Fort Clarence for fifty-six days.

The Trafalgar, 120, in dock at Chatham, being converted into a 90-gun screw steamer, is nearly completed, and will be ready to be undocked next month, when it is understood she will be attached to the Channel fleet.

A favourable report has been made to the authorities of the result of the experiments with the new description of rifle bullets invented by Captain J. Norton.

It was stated in Woolwich Arsenal that Mr. Armstrong, the inventor of the wrought-iron rifle cannon, has entered into a contract with her Majesty's Government, and that a considerable number of the guns are to be forthwith supplied for the use of the Artillery.

We are informed that Government have given out orders for the construction of sixteen engines, destined for war steamers.

Six floating batteries are about to be constructed in the French ports on the model of the Jemmapes. The batteries about to be constructed are different from those employed in the Crimean war, inasmuch as they are not flat-bottomed, and may be navigated like ships.

It is said that the report about to be presented by the Royal Commission for Manning the Navy will propose a system which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, will ensure the maintenance of that service in a state of perfect efficiency at all times, at an addition to the present outlay not exceeding 400,000*l.* per annum.

The Rev. James Inman, D.D., many years Professor of Mathematics at the Royal Naval College, Portsmouth Dockyard, died on the 7th ult., aged eighty-three. He was the oldest of Cambridge Senior Wranglers, and has long possessed a just celebrity in naval circles for his application of science to navigation and ship-building. He laboured very many years unobtrusively but zealously in his country's service. While Professor of Mathematics at the Royal Naval College he published several valuable works now in general use in the naval service; but he was best known by his having been the first person in this country who built ships on scientific principles, and by his having educated a class of men in whose hands the "reconstruction" of the British Navy must be placed.

Some further experiments to test the inventions made by Captain J. Norton, have been made at Chatham before the officers of the Royal Engineers. The first was a new description of shell, called by Captain Norton a "liquid-fire shell," the phosphorus and other chemical properties contained in which are of so highly inflammable a character that immediately on its striking either the sails or rigging of a ship they become ignited. A number of sacks were suspended to represent sails, and these were soon wetted through by the rain, which fell heavily. Captain Norton having loaded a large rifle with his shell, which is somewhat larger than a rifle bullet, fired at the sacking, and although the materials were so wet, the whole mass was shortly in flames. Captain Norton then proceeded to experiment with his newly-invented rifle fire-shot, which he has named the "spinster" shot. This messenger is intended, when it is fired from a rifle, to set fire to the powder in ammunition waggons, bags of gunpowder, and also firing dry grass in jungles. This shot has been fired with effect by Captain Norton at a distance of 1800 yards. Both experiments were considered perfectly satisfactory by the officers who witnessed them.

A DIFFICULTY AT WASHINGTON.

WE'VE had a fight at Washington,
A regular tooth-and-nailer,
Taylor has Walden whipped like fun,
And Walden walloped Taylor.
Yankee Doodle, &c.

The Honourable George Taylor
As he passed Walden, walking,
Heard some remark that man made; for
To a third man he was talking.
Yankee Doodle, &c.

"Was that air you said meant for me?"
Was Taylor's terrification,
"Wal," Walden answers, "that may be,"
Which Taylor ryled tartation.
Yankee Doodle, &c.

He clinched his fist, and let it go
Right slick at t'other feller;
And Walden het back, noways slow,
By means of his umbrella.
Yankee Doodle, &c.

But Taylor from his fist quick wrung
That there auxiliary,
Fust licked him with it, and then flung
It at his adversary.
Yankee Doodle, &c.

Then other parties interposed,
And further strife prevented,
The difficulty thus was closed,
And both the men contented.
Yankee Doodle, &c.

Fact is, the New York man was mad
To lose his situation,
Which he had lost, or thought he had,
By Taylor's accusation.
Yankee Doodle, &c.

To see an Ex-official fight
'Long with a Legislator,
I reckon is a prettier sight
Than bear and alligator.
Yankee Doodle, &c.—Punch.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—The Registrar-General's return furnishes indications of improvement in the health of the metropolis. The three last weeks have shown a decrease in the number of deaths. The total last week was 1248, being 71 under the average. Scarletina and diphtheria are decreasing. The births for the week were 1922. Dr. Letheby gives a favourable report of the health of the City, the deaths having fallen from 82 to 62.

Foreign Intelligence.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

THE general impression produced by the Emperor's speech on Monday, at the opening of the Chambers, is excessively unfavourable.

The Paris correspondent of the *Nord*, writing in anticipation of the Emperor's speech, has the following significant paragraph:—"It is possible, however, that the Emperor's speech may be very vague—that, like that of the Queen of England, it may tell very little which was not known before. But it must be remarked that if, under present circumstances, the Emperor should say little, he must be understood to mean a great deal. If he should be reserved, the inference will be that he means war, and only desires to gain time."

The speech made by the Count de Morny, when it became his duty to address the Legislative Body, referred to and reflected the "noble words" uttered by the Emperor the day before, and commended the Emperor's rule as distinguished for moderation, devotedness, and religious care. The speech is intended to have a pacific effect. Count de Morny alludes to credit and labour making peace the bond of modern society, and says:—"Publicity and the rapidity of international communication have created a new European Power, of which all Governments are compelled to take account. This Power is Opinion. Let us hope that the generous ideas of the Emperor will make their way in the world, and that in accordance as they are with the sympathies of nations, and sustained by the influence of sovereigns, they will succeed in solving peaceably all the questions of difficulty that present themselves."

A Paris correspondent of the *Continental Review* writes:—"Since the 1st of January the public mind has not ceased to pronounce itself more and more every day against the war, and to-day the Emperor may be said to be completely isolated in his policy. He has against him all his Ministers; he has against him all his friends, even the most devoted, from M. de Persigny to M. de Morny; he has against him the Bank, finance, commerce, and industry; he has not even with him the Democratic party, who might have hoped in a war of Italian independence to awaken the spirit of revolution, but who see so far but an extension of despotism."

We read in a Berlin letter:—"The falsification in the French papers of a certain passage in the Queen's speech has been ludicrously commented on here. 'The most earnest representations' of the British Cabinet are, in the Paris journals, converted into 'the most lively hopes.' Napoleon III. does not seem to have thought fit to confess to his loyal subjects that the British already begin to assume a tone of command towards him."

A circular has been addressed by the Minister of Commerce to the Chambers of Commerce throughout France, informing them that orders have been given to commanders of ships of war to prevent, in future, the transportation of negroes from the coast of Africa to French colonies.

In the mean time the military preparations continue with the greatest activity. Thirty thousand men, with all the matériel, are ready to be embarked on the coast of Algiers. Transports are being put in commission with all possible haste; and on board some of the corvettes they are constructing stables for the cavalry. At Marseilles the military stores have so accumulated that they encumber the depôts of the Mediterranean Steam Packet Company, whose directors have been obliged to complain to the Minister of War.

The *Gazette de Lyon* announces that General Renard's division, recalled from Africa, is expected at Lyons in about a week. The recall of an entire division all at once is an event without precedent, and one which certainly cannot be explained by any of the rules which govern the rotation of home and foreign service in the army. It is a palpable war symptom.

Upwards of sixty war transports are ordered to be ready at Toulon by March 1, and we hear that five divisions of infantry are under marching orders to be at that port by the same day.

It is stated that the railway from Toulon to Marseilles will be opened to the public on the 1st of March. It was not to have been completed, according to the original contract, until two months later. This change in the time of opening can spring from but one motive—the desire of the French Government to have at its disposal at once additional facilities for the transport of troops and ammunition through the South.

The Paris correspondent of the *Express* writes:—"I hear an ominous whisper which, under present circumstances, must not be lightly disregarded, that a war loan of 750 millions is on the tapis, and that extraordinary efforts will be made to keep up the funds until the loan is brought out."

The *Moniteur* of yesterday publishes the following:—"The project of law for fixing the general receipts and expenditure of the Budget for 1860, and the project of law tending to approve the conventions passed between the Minister of Agriculture, Commerce, and of Public Works, and different railway companies, were yesterday taken to the Legislative Body just as the sitting was

over. These two projects of law will be presented to the Legislative Body at the next public sitting."

The Tuilleries ball on Tuesday was, it is said, rather dull. The Emperor was suffering from gout or rheumatism, and did not appear. The Princess Clotilde was fatigued, and kept her apartment, and Prince Napoleon was equally invisible.

Admiral Hamelin is about to make a personal inspection of the French ports. The number of ships of war at present in commission in the French ports is 200.

A pamphlet, by M. Emile de Girardin, entitled "La Guerre," was announced to appear yesterday unless it should be seized at the printer's. M. de Girardin presumes to combat the arguments of the great pamphlet, "Napoleon III. and Italy," and invites France to choose between "war and liberty."

AUSTRIA.

Austria is collecting her men-of-war at Pola, in apprehension, it seems, of the naval preparations of France. But at the same time the *Austrian Gazette* contains an article expressing confidence in the maintenance of peace. The Viennese make demonstrations in the theatres in favour of an alliance with Prussia and Germany, and the Princess of the Imperial House, as is said, join openly in these demonstrations.

An address in favour of Victor Emmanuel is being circulated at Milan, where it readily obtains many signatures, under the very noses of the police. The nobles subscribe to it *en masse* as well as the people.

Fresh troops continue to arrive in Lombardy. A corps of from fifteen to twenty thousand men, commanded by General Gallia, is in movement. Twelve battalions of Croats have already arrived in Venice, and others are distributed between Laybach and Naxos.

The Austrian garrison of the fortress of Ferrara has been increased to four thousand Croats.

It is currently reported that the Archduke Maximilian is about to quit Milan. The Austrian troops, which were distributed between the Adda and the Ticino, have been reunited in large masses at the two extremities, Pavia and Piacenza.

The iron crown of Charlemagne has been sent to Vienna from Monza, where it was preserved with other historic mementoes. This is to provide against a similar accident to that which befel the crown of St. Stephen in Hungary, which has never been seen since 1848.

PRUSSIA.

The long-expected diplomatic appointments of Prussia have now been made. They are all in favour of what is called in Prussia a German policy and of an English alliance. The representative of Prussia at the British Court, Count Bernstorff, who is an exponent of the same policy, and had no party connexion with the late Ministry, has been retained in his important post.

The reply given by Prince Frederick William to the congratulations of the Prussian House of Lords on the occasion of the late birth, was nearly in the following terms:—"I thank you most heartily for the interest which you take in an event so important. If God should spare the life of my son, my great object will be to instil into his mind those sentiments which attach me to my country. It is nearly a year, my Lords, since I had an opportunity of evincing how deeply I was touched with the gratifying reception which, at the time of my marriage, I met with in all parts of the country. It was that reception which has in so short a time inspired the Princess, my consort, who had just left her own land, with love and attachment to her new country, sentiments which the birth of a son now renders such as can never be changed. May God bless our efforts to make our son worthy of the affectionate interest with which he has so soon been greeted! The Princess desires me, my Lords, to offer to you her most affectionate acknowledgments."

Intelligence from Rome reaches us that the King and Queen of Prussia intend returning about the middle of May. The King's mental faculties remain impaired.

The picture galleries and State collections of Berlin have been thrown open to the public on Sundays.

THE PRINCIPALITIES.

The National Assembly, in a sitting composed of sixty-four deputies, unanimously elected Alexander Couza, the Hospodar of Moldavia, also as Prince of Wallachia.

The Council of Ministers is composed as follows:—M. Jean Philippesco, Minister of Justice and President of the Council; M. Nicholas Gulesco, Interior; M. Catadzi, Finance; M. Vladopana, War; M. Demetrius Bratiano, Foreign Affairs; M. Jean Cantacuzene, Public Worship; M. Gregoire Philippesco, Control.

A deputation of the electors of Moldavia has set out for Constantinople to give explanations to the Government relative to the election of Prince Couza.

TURKEY.

Advices have been received from Constantinople to the effect that the reserve of the Turkish army has arrived; but such is the want of money that the arrears of pay of the forces in Asia and also of the Government employees have remained undischarged for eighteen months. The contest among Ministers in the Divan still continues. Kybrisi Pasha denounced the conduct of Safeti Pasha. Ethem Pasha has been sent to the

Principalities as Extraordinary Commissioner. Twenty battalions of infantry, together with the necessary artillery, will be despatched to the Danube, and placed at the disposal of Ethem Pasha, who, in certain exigencies, is empowered to order the troops to enter the Principalities.

A letter from Jeddah states that the execution of the criminals concerned in the massacre of the Christians in that city took place in the middle of the day, and in the most public manner possible. The event has produced a considerable sensation, and it is felt that neither rank, station, nor riches will henceforth protect those who are led away by their fanaticism to the commission of such crimes.

Kybrisi Mehemed Pasha has been dismissed. The telegraph line for Syria will shortly begin to work.

The news of the election of A. Couza as Hospodar of Wallachia has caused a great sensation at Constantinople. The *Presse d'Orient* says that the Porte will protest against the elections in Wallachia, and has communicated to the embassies its demand for the re-assembling of the Conference on the Principalities.

Rumours of an approaching change in the Ministry are continually current.

The *Journal de Constantinople* states that troops will be immediately sent to the Danube.

The Moldavian Commissioners have arrived at Constantinople.

THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

A despatch dated Corfu, February 1, says that the reply of her Majesty has arrived there. It declines to agree to the petition of the Ionian Parliament. Mr. Gladstone has addressed another message to the Parliament, insisting upon projects of reform in seventeen points. The Parliament has postponed its reply.

RUSSIA.

A letter from St. Petersburg mentions a rumour that the establishment of a synagogue in the capital, where heretofore Jews have only been allowed to reside under very severe restrictions, is about to be authorised.

The Emperor has presided over two sittings of the Central Committee for the Emancipation of the Serfs, in order to make himself personally acquainted with the progress of this great reform.

SPAIN.

The Senate have held a secret sitting on M. Santaella's affair. It is likely that Prince Adalbert of Bavaria would be made a lieutenant-general instead of a captain-general (marshal) of the army. The report that the Duc de Montpensier contemplates going abroad is once again contradicted on authority.

PORTUGAL.

According to advices received from Lisbon the Portuguese Chambers have been prorogued to the 2nd of April.

TUSCANY.

The hereditary Grand Duchess of Tuscany, daughter of the King of Saxony, has fallen seriously ill at Naples. On Sunday, at her desire, she received the sacrament. Later news state she is no worse.

NAPLES.

The Neapolitan Government has replied officially to the Council of Advocates respecting the Taranto Railway, in the matter of the seizure of the company's caution money. Government declares the Council contrary to law, and deserving of censure for having discussed a question which had been already decided by the King, the only judge.

The King has again fallen ill. His Majesty is suffering from an attack of pleurisy, which had been imperfectly cured. He will return to Caserta.

The marriage of the hereditary prince was celebrated on the 3rd inst.

It is asserted that a note from the English Government has been received here, containing remonstrances against the insufficiency of the amnesty granted by the Neapolitan Government.

Private letters from Palermo bring intelligence that the country is as agitated now as it was in 1847, and that things are taking much the same turn. A great number of arrests of persons of station and education have taken place in that city. Among them is Gaetano Daita, formerly a deputy to the Sicilian Parliament, and a gentleman of position and talent.

Mr. Bonham, our new consul, arrived in Naples on Thursday, the 3rd inst.

ROME.

The Prince of Wales arrived on Thursday evening *incognito*. The following day the Pope sent his majordomo to pay him his respects.

Prince Albert of Prussia had left again, after having had several interviews with the Pope.

The official journal contradicts the statement published by some papers that Ferrara has been declared in a state of siege.

It is rumoured that Cardinal Brunelli is charged with a mission to Paris on the part of the Roman Government.

Señor Antonio de los Rios Rosas had an audience of the Pope on the 31st ult., in order to deliver his credentials as Spanish Ambassador to the Holy See.

SARDINIA.

In the sittings of the 4th of February of the Sardinian

Chamber of Deputies, Signor Lanza, Minister of Finance, presented a project of law authorising the Government to contract a loan of 50,000,000 lire. The following is a summary of a speech delivered by Count Cavour in the course of the debate on the subject of the loan on Wednesday. He said:—"Our consistent policy has been at all times national and Italian (*nationale italienne*), and never of a revolutionary character. Austria has lately taken a menacing attitude towards us. She has increased her military forces at Piacenza, and has collected very large forces on our frontiers; therefore, the necessity arises for us to look for means for the defence of the State. The English alliance has always been the constant care of our whole political life. We have always considered England as the impregnable asylum of liberty. The cries of suffering coming from Bologna and Naples reach at last the banks of the Thames, while the tears and groans of Milan are intercepted by the Alps and the Austrians. But the cause of liberty, of justice, and of civilisation must always triumph. As regards England, Lord Derby will not tarnish his glory by making himself an accomplice of those who wish to condemn the Italians to eternal servitude. Our policy is not defiant, we will not excite to war, neither will we lower our voice when Austria arms herself and threatens us." After a stormy discussion, the new loan has been voted. There appeared for the loan 116; against it, 35.

The diplomatic circular which Count Cavour sent to his agents in foreign countries, explanatory of the present position of Piedmont, sets forth that for some time Austria has added to the previous injuries she had inflicted upon Italy by a number of military measures which threaten the independence of the Italian states, particularly of Sardinia. The Cabinet of Turin, therefore, conceives it a duty to notify to the different powers that, desiring to be able to resist any attempt of a foreign Government of a nature to compromise the safety of the Sardinian States, as well as the revolutionary excess of sects subversive of public order, the Government of King Victor Emmanuel believes it right to take precautions that from this time the country may be considered as on a war footing.

The following is from the *Times*:—"A vague and apparently improbable rumour has reached London from the Continent, that the King of Sardinia is about to abdicate in favour of his son. The age of King Victor Emmanuel is only 39."

Numerous promotions have taken place in the army; 150 sergeants have been raised to the rank of officers.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON'S SPEECH.

The following is the address delivered on Monday at the opening of the Legislative Body by the Emperor:—

"MESSEURS LES SÉNATEURS,

"MESSEURS LES DÉPUTÉS,

"France, you are aware, has seen for six years her welfare advance, its riches increase, her internal dissensions extinguished, its prestige raised; yet there arises at intervals in the midst of the general calm and prosperity a vague inquietude, an agitation which, without any well-defined cause, carries away certain spirits and affects public confidence. I deplore these periodical discouragements without being astonished at them.

"In a society which has been convulsed by so many revolutions as ours has been, time alone can strengthen convictions, invigorate character, and create political faith.

"The emotion which has been produced, without any appearance of imminent dangers, might naturally cause surprise, for it testifies at once to too much mistrust and too much fear. Doubts would seem to have been entertained not only of the moderation of which I have given so much proof, but also of the real power of France.

"Happily the mass of the people is far from submitting to such impressions. To-day it is my duty to show to you again that which seems to have been forgotten.

"What has constantly been my policy? To reassure Europe—to give France its true rank—to cement closely our alliance with England—and to regulate the degree of my friendship with the continental Powers, in conformity with our own views, and the nature of their proceedings towards France.

"It is thus that, on the eve of my third election, I made at Bordeaux this declaration, '*L'Empire est la paix*,' wishing to prove thereby that if the heir of the Emperor Napoleon ascended the throne, he did not commence an era of conquests; but inaugurated a system of peace, which would not be disturbed but for the defence of great national interests.

"As to the alliance of France and England, I have exerted all my perseverance to consolidate it, and I have found on the other side of the Channel a happy reciprocity of sentiment on the part of the Queen of Great Britain as well as on the part of statesmen of all opinions. Moreover to attain this object, so favourable to the peace of the world, I put under my foot on every occasion the irritating recollections of the past, the attacks of calumny, even the national prejudices of my country. This alliance has brought its fruits—not only

have we acquired, together, a lasting glory in the East, but even at the extremity of the world we have been opening an immense empire to the progress of civilisation and the Christian religion.

"Since the conclusion of the peace, my relations with the Emperor of Russia have assumed the character of the frankest cordiality; because we have been in accord upon all the points in dispute.

"I have also to congratulate myself upon my relations with Prussia, which have not ceased to be animated by mutual good-will.

"The cabinet of Vienna and mine, on the contrary—I say it with regret—have often been found at variance upon the principal questions, and it has required a great spirit of conciliation to effect their solution. For example, the reconstitution of the Danubian Principalities could only be terminated after many difficulties, which have prevented the full satisfaction of their most legitimate desires, and if it should be asked of me what interest France had in those distant countries washed by the Danube, I should reply that the interest of France is wherever there is a just and civilised cause to promote.

"In this state of things it was not at all extraordinary that France should draw more closely to Piedmont, which had been so devoted during the war—so faithful to our policy during peace.

"The happy union of my beloved cousin, Prince Napoleon, with the daughter of King Victor Emmanuel is not, then, one of those unusual facts for which it is necessary to seek a hidden reason, but naturally arises from that community of interest of the two countries and the friendship of the two sovereigns.

"For some time past the state of Italy and its abnormal situation, which makes it impossible to maintain order except with the aid of foreign troops, has justly alarmed diplomacy. It is not, however, a sufficient motive for beliving in war. (*Ce n'est pas néanmoins un motif suffisant de croire à la guerre.*)

"While some call for it with all their hearts without legitimate reason, and others in the exaggeration of their fears, like to show France the dangers of a new coalition, I shall remain firmly in the path of law, of justice, and of national honour, and my Government will neither permit itself to be led away or intimidated, because my policy will never be either quarrelsome or pusillanimous. Far from us, then, be these false alarms—these unjust mistrusts—this internal weakness. Peace, I hope, will not be troubled. Resume, then, with calmness, the habitual course of your labours. I have explained to you frankly the state of our external relations, and this *exposé* agrees with what I have endeavoured to make known for the past two months. Alike at home and abroad, you will find I wish to believe that my policy has not ceased for an instant to be the same—firm but conciliatory.

"Thus, I rely always with confidence upon your concurrence, as well as upon the support of the nation which has confided to me its destinies.

"It knows that personal interest or a mean ambition will never direct my actions.

"When sustained by popular will one mounts the steps of a throne, he is raised by the gravest responsibilities above the infamous region wherein vulgar interests are struggling, and he has for his first motives, as well as for his last judges, 'God, Conscience, and Posterity.'

AMERICA.

The Niagara has arrived from Boston with intelligence to the 26th ult.

The bids for the remaining 10,000,000 dols. of the loan authorised in June last, were opened at Washington on the 24th ult. The whole sum offered amounted to over 31,000,000 dollars, at premiums ranging from 4 to 5 per cent.

The proposition to place the sum of 30,000,000 dols. at the disposal of the President to enable him to negotiate for the purchase of Cuba had been favourably reported upon by the Committees on Foreign Affairs, in both Houses of Congress. The bill proposes to appropriate 30,000,000 dollars to enable the President to conclude with Spain a treaty of amity, and for the settlement of all difficulties with her, including the cession of the island of Cuba.

The Washington correspondent of the *New York Herald* gives a rumour that the Spanish Minister had threatened to demand his passports in the event of the appropriation being made. The general impression was that the bill would pass.

By the interposition of friends an explanatory correspondence had taken place between Senators Douglas and Fitch, and the threatened duel had been averted.

The centenary of Burns was celebrated with much enthusiasm in America. At New York the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher delivered an eloquent and instructive address on the character of Burns, before a large audience, and in the evening a grand banquet took place at the Astor House, presided over by William Cullen Bryant, the poet. At Boston two banquets took place, and were attended by many of the most eminent literary men in America. Celebrations likewise took place at Washington and many other cities.

The dates from Victoria are to the 25th of December. The Fraser River was open again, and late discoveries

have increased the faith in the richness of the gold-fields in that region.

In Washington territory a band of white men from El Paso County had stolen into the camp of a party of Indians known to be remarkably peaceable, massacring seven of them, besides wounding a number of their companions. It was apprehended that in consequence of this outrage the Indians would commence an indiscriminate war on the border settlements.

The Washington correspondent of the *New York Times* gives currency to a rumour that President Buchanan was contemplating matrimony with a widow lady.

SERVIA.

A DESPATCH from Belgrade, dated Sunday, announces that Prince Milosch has made his solemn entry into that city, accompanied by Prince Michael. The Senate and the Ministry were excluded from the ceremony.

The following letter has been received from Belgrade, dated 31st January last:—"The Skouptschina has today unanimously decreed the dismissal of all the Senators and of all the Ministers. Almost all the deputies united in demanding the dismissal of the entire Senate and of all the Ministers. After a tumultuous discussion, the Skouptschina unanimously decreed the dismissal of all the Senators and of all the Ministers."

WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

By the Armenian we learn that trade opened at Bonny on the 1st of January. The King of Old Calabar is dead. The slave Julia was captured at Cape Coast on the 19th of December, by the American frigate Vincennes, and sent to the United States.

A ship called the Juliette was deserted by her crew at Bonny, and reported to H.M.S. Archer.

THE GERMAN DIET.

The Diet disposes of the following troops in time of peace:—The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd army corps (of Austria), 142,233 men; the 4th, 5th, and 6th army corps (of Prussia), 120,392 men; the 7th, which is Bavarian, 53,400; the 8th corps numbers 35,933, the 9th corps 28,954, and the 10th 20,045 men. The total strength of the simple contingent, together with the division of reserve, amounts to 452,475 men.

But by the month of June the Diet would dispose of 600,000 men for its 1st, 2nd, and 3rd army corps, leaving another 100,000 in the country, that is of Austria; 300,000 for the 4th, 5th, and 6th corps, leaving the Landwehr (or militia) to guard the country (of Prussia); the 7th corps would number 75,000, leaving the reserve in the country (of Bavaria); the 8th corps would amount to 40,000, the 9th to 20,000, the 10th to 25,000, the division of reserve to 22,000, and the volunteers to 50,000. The grand total would make a collective strength of 1,132,000 men.

MEXICO.

By the last American mail we learn that the Constitutional President, Señor Juárez, had issued a proclamation denouncing the movements at the capital, and calling upon all good Mexicans to put down the reactionists, and to restore the capital to the Liberal cause. It was reported at Washington that the President was considering favourably the question of receiving Señor Mata as Minister from Mexico, and thereby recognising the Constitutional Government of Juárez.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—The royal family continue at Windsor in good health. The Queen, with the Prince Consort and all their children, were present at a juvenile ball given by the Duchess of Kent on Friday in honour of the birth of her great-grandson. Thursday, the 10th inst., was the anniversary of her Majesty's marriage, and was duly celebrated at Windsor Castle. As early as seven in the morning the band of the 2nd Life Guards played on the eastern terrace, and in the evening there was a performance of choral music in St. George's Hall, by an orchestra of upwards of one hundred and fifty performers, to which a large party were invited by the Queen. The Prince Consort has been engaged this week in visiting the Windsor Infirmary, the Savings Bank, and the Model Lodging Houses, and has also transacted business at the Wellington College. The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Duke and Duchess of Beaufort, the Earl of Carlisle, the Right Hon. H. and Lady Mary Labouchere, and the Duchess of Sutherland, arrived on a visit at the Castle this week.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.—A letter from Rome says:—"When the Prince passed through Bologna, he received the Austrian General, but not the Cardinal Archbishop. His suite are very reserved. They take notes upon the state and condition of the country. These notes will certainly not be in favour of Austria or of the Pope. The Prince, I fancy, will see that the Empire and the Papacy have had their day, and that it is time now for something new."

THE PRINCES FREDERICK WILLIAM.—On Saturday a bulletin was issued stating that the Princess Frederick

William and the infant Prince being well, no more bulletins will be issued. A Berlin letter states that Queen Victoria, the Emperor of Russia, the Queen of Prussia, the Grand-Duke of Weimar, and the Princess Charles of Prussia will be the godfathers and godmothers of the infant prince.

ELECTION COMMITTEE.—The Speaker has appointed the following members to serve on the general committee of elections for the present session:—The Right Hon. Sir F. T. Baring, Bart.; the Right Hon. Sir W. Meredith Somerville, Bart.; Sir William Heathcote, Bart.; Robert Palmer, Esq.; William Miles, Esq.; and John Bonham Carter, Esq.

THE ST. PANCRAZ VESTRY.—At the meeting of the vestry on Wednesday, a letter was read from the Poor-law Board in reference to the dismissal of the chaplain. This communication stated that the sanction of the board was necessary to give force to the dismissal of an officer. The letter was ordered to lie on the table. It was, nevertheless, agreed to appoint a day for the election of a chaplain in the room of the Rev. Thomas Pugh. The debt of 13,500*l.* on the vestry rates is now entirely liquidated.

FAME VERSUS GOLD.—A very curious dinner has just taken place in Madrid, and a private letter gives to a report. We should scarcely venture to meddle with anything so unpretending but for the thoughts which were uttered there, remarkable alike in their source and in their æsthetic tendency. The eminent banker, M. Salamanca, receives at his table, every Thursday, politicians and journalists of the Moderate party. To this weekly courtesy twelve *gaceteros* (journalists) recently responded by inviting their opulent host to an entertainment of their own, at one of the modest restaurants of the Spanish capital. The invitation was accepted, and the dinner took place, the cost of the feast being eight reals, or 1*s.* 9*d.* a head. Our correspondent takes up the tale:—"Instead of the basket of flowers usually placed at the centre of the table stood a pyramid of books, surrounded by the busts of Calderon, Lope de Vega, Cervantes, and Velasquez. The dinner has been more than modest, and I would never have troubled you with it were it not for Salamanca's speech, which, I think, is worthy to be reproduced:—'Gentlemen, said he, 'about twenty-five years from this time the old and threadbare cassock of Salamanca, then a student in the University of Granada, might be among the oldest and most worn-out cassocks of his comrades. When my education was completed I proceeded to Mataga, and made myself a *gacetero* (journalist) of the *Arriero Malagueño*. Then the love of gold took possession of my soul, and it was Madrid that I found the object of my adoration; but not without the loss of my juvenile illusion. Believe me, gentlemen, the man who can satisfy all his wishes has no more enjoyment. Keep the way you have entered on, I advise you. Rothschild's celebrity will cease on the day of his death. Immortality can be earned, but not bought. Here, before you the busts of men who have gloriously cultivated liberal arts; their busts I have met with throughout the whole of Europe; but nowhere have I found a statue erected to the memory of a man who has devoted his life to making money. To-day I speak to you with my feelings of twenty-two years, for in your company I have forgotten I am a banker, and only thought of my youth and days of gay humour.'—Spectator.

ST. PETER'S PRIVATE PROPERTY.—The *Univers* advances a tremendous argument against the politicians who propose a reorganisation of the Roman States:—"The Roman States are not the property of Pius IX.; they are the property of St. Peter. The Pope has a link interest in them."

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.—At Banbury, Mr. Samuelson, the great manufacturer, has been elected, to the defeat of Mr. Miall.—The new Lord Advocate, Mr. Charles Baillie, has been returned for Linlithgowshire.—From Oxford we learn that the election for the University takes place this day, and that there is no whisper of opposition to Mr. Gladstone.—At Hythe, on Monday, Baron Meyer de Rothschild met with an enthusiastic reception from a large meeting of the electors. Mr. Wilde, Q.C., a Conservative, is also canvassing the borough.—Mr. Townsend's resignation of his seat for Greenwich having at length been formally completed, a writ has been issued. The result of the contest, which lies between Mr. Alderman Salomons and Mr. Angerstein, appears to be uncertain. In the mean while General Codrington's resignation has led to a movement in favour of Mr. Montague Chambers, and a requisition to that gentleman has appeared.

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION.—On Tuesday evening, the 8th inst., an address was delivered by Mr. Hyle Clarke, V.F., on the organisation of a continuous geological survey by local sections or committees of the members, contributing yearly reports on the progress of geology in their districts, which would embrace:—Additions to the surveys and maps by sub-classification of formations; discoveries of new minerals and fossils, and particularly substances suitable for agricultural manures, building, manufactures, or mining; accounts of mines, quarries, wells, cuttings, tunnels, landfills, and other operations by which the substrata are penetrated; observations on the wells, springs, rivers, and subterranean water strata; thermal observations; electro-magnetic observations on mineral lodes; records of local earth-

quakes, as those of the Corrie district, by Mr. Drummond; all phenomena of deposition and abrasion; the effect of agricultural operations on the soil and surface; the result of special inquiries on building stones, or researches for economical substances. He referred to the share that women had taken in geological pursuits, to Lady Marchion, Lady Lyell, the Marchioness of Hastings, Miss Bennett, Mrs. Cobbold, and Mary Anning. About forty members were elected.

COURT OF ALDERMEN.—On Tuesday the Court of Aldermen sat for the despatch of public business. The court proceeded to the adjourned consideration of the petition of Mr. John Elder Duffield, complaining of defects in the list of electors of the ward of Aldersgate-street, and against the return of Deputy Larkin as a common councillor. Mr. Piper, the ward clerk, underwent a long examination as to the matter of the petition, and Mr. De Jersey replied on behalf of Mr. Larkin. The court came to the unanimous conclusion that the petition should be dismissed.

CHLOROFORM.—Doctor Simpson, with his two assistants, sat down late one night, after an arduous day's toil; and, when most physicians as well as patients were wrapped in sleep, began to inhale various substances which had been collected. A small bottle of chloroform had been raked up out of some obscure corner, and was to take its turn with the rest. Each experimenter having provided himself with a tumbler or finger-glass, a portion of each selected fluid was poured into the bottom of it, and the glass was placed over warm water to favour the evolution of vapour. Holding the mouth and nostrils over the vessels, these votaries of science courageously explored this *terra incognita* by inhaling one vapour after another. At last each charged his tumbler from the small bottle of chloroform, when immediately, says Professor Miller, an unwonted hilarity seized the party; they became bright-eyed and very happy, and conversed with such intelligence as more than usually charmed other listeners who were not taking part in the proceedings. But suddenly there was a talk of sounds being heard like those of a cotton-mill, louder and louder; a moment more then all was quiet, and then—a crash. On awaking, Dr. Simpson's first perception was mental. "This is far stronger and better than ether," he said to himself. His second was to note that he was prostrate on the floor, and that his friends were confused and alarmed. Hearing a noise, he turned round and saw his assistant, Doctor Duncan, beneath a chair; his jaw dropped, his eyes staring, and his head half bent under him; quite unconscious, and snoring in a determined and alarming manner. More noise still, and much motion. And then his eyes overtook Doctor Keith's feet and legs, making valorous efforts to overturn the table, or more probably to annihilate everything that was upon it. All speedily regained their senses, and, from that day—or, rather from the middle of that night—dates the discovery of the marvellous properties of chloroform. A patient was found in the Royal Infirmary who submitted to its influence during operation, and who awoke up afterwards, quite unconscious of what had happened, with a merry eye and placid countenance. Henceforward, ether was all but abandoned; and chloroform is now used, more or less, in every public hospital both in Great Britain and on the Continent.—*Household Words.*

CONVOCAION.—The Convocation of the prelates and clergy of the province of Canterbury took place at Westminster on Wednesday, when there was a considerable gathering of members of both Houses. The Bishop of London, in the absence of his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, presided in the Upper House. Mr. Henry Hoare, the banker, was in attendance to present a petition, through the Bishop of Oxford, praying for the renewal of the active duties of Convocation and the admission of the laity to a part in the business, but it was postponed till Friday. The Lower House was presided over by Dr. Elliot, Dean of Bristol. A warm discussion ensued on the reading of the report of the committee on the Matrimonial and Divorce Act, during which the Prolocutor expressed his opinion that the advice of the clergy in Convocation ought to be taken by the Legislature before changes were made affecting the ritual of the Church. The Lower House assembled on Thursday, the Dean of Bristol presiding. After a lengthened discussion on the standing orders the report on home and foreign missions was taken into consideration. A strong desire was expressed that more encouragement should be held out to the clergy for undertaking missionary work for short periods. A motion was carried by a large majority for taking steps to settle the difficulties arising in churches in missionary stations. Some other business having been transacted, the house adjourned.

SENSIBLE FASHIONS.—"Nix," writing to *Punch*, observes:—"Those who are old enough to recollect the time when young ladies were 'thoughtless, foolish, bewitching, lovely, and helpless,' less than forty years ago, can remember what their irresistibility was. Every young man in those days was in love, or liable at any moment to fall in love. You could not go about without being smitten with a pretty face, or figure, or foot, presented under conditions of dress expressly calculated to smite. Now there is no fear of that. The female head and heart have got cooler, lighter, and harder

than they used to be. To these changes of nature, costume and manners correspond, and produce a corresponding effect on the beholder—a healthy, cooling induction. Formerly the dress was subordinate to the person, now the person is subservient to the dress—a mere framework for the support of the martial red petticoat, and the rest of it. No fellow can become enamoured of a quantity of clothes, which fix his gaze, and avert from the object inside of them his unpleasant attention." He remarks that the ladies having, by their modern habiliments, effectually disguised any beauties their figures possess, if they would only take to wearing masks, their costume would be perfect.

A LION HUNT AT SEA.—The Himalaya has arrived from Gibraltar and Tangier, from which latter place she brings the presents of horses and wild animals sent from the Emperor of Morocco to her Majesty, consisting of one lion, one leopard, six ostriches, one gazelle, six horses, two mares, and an animal called by the Moorish attendants "irwy," but which in appearance much resembles the mountain sheep of California, known by the trapper name of "bighorn." The horses and animals have come to England in charge of four Moors, who form no slight attraction, dressed in their Moorish costume. The somewhat unusual spectacle of a "lion hunt" took place on board on the 2nd instant. One of the Moors was engaged in feeding the lion through a door which opened for that purpose in a part of his cage or den, when, with a sudden spring, the animal dashed through the opening on to the steamer's main deck, which, as may be imagined, was soon "cleared." The hatchways were at once closed, and measures promptly taken by Commander Seecombe to secure the animal as speedily as possible. For this purpose the commander, with the senior Lieutenant, boatswain, sergeant of marines, and two men, descended to the main deck, taking with them the end of a stout line; this was riven through a ringbolt in the deck, and a running noose formed with the end. After some considerable manœuvring the noose was thrown over the lion's head, the word given to the hands on deck, who ran away with the other end of the line, and the lion was pinned down to the ringbolt in the deck. His legs were immediately secured, and he was dragged back to his den in safety.

SIR GEORGE C. LEWIS ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS.—On Thursday, at a grand entertainment given by the Fishmongers' Company, Sir G. C. Lewis returned thanks for the members of the late Administration. He said he quite agreed with their hospitable chairman, that it was measures and not men that the country wanted, and he was willing that the late Government should be regarded and judged in that light. When they took office they found the country deeply involved in a most arduous and desperate contest with the empire of Russia, and they were enabled, before yielding up the reins of government, to bring that struggle to a glorious conclusion, and to obtain a firm peace, which he hoped had tranquillised the affairs of Europe. The measures also which that Government had conducted to a successful termination were calculated equally to promote the internal, foreign, and colonial interests of the empire. An allusion had been made to the Liberal principles which had guided the late Administration, but those principles, he was glad to say, had spread wider and wider since then throughout the country, even to the extent of affecting the present members of her Majesty's Government. At the present moment a great measure of Parliamentary Reform was promised by the Conservatives, and the party of resistance was suddenly about to become the party of movement; the old Tory garrison was about to offer terms of capitulation to the force of public opinion at last. It would remain with the Parliament to say whether those terms would be accepted. He was sure there were some present round him who could remember the great Reform struggle of 1831, and the almost unrelenting animosity and bitterness with which that contest was carried on. At the present day they saw that party which in 1831 had so strenuously opposed Reform now loud with the cry that it had not gone far enough, and coming forward with strong promises that they would bring in another and a better bill of their own. He certainly trusted that they would be successful, and that the present Government would, as they ought, legislate in such a satisfactory manner as would give to the country in 1859 the liberal energy and vigour which had resulted from the Reform Bill of 1831.

COMMON COUNCIL.—At a Court held on Thursday, at which the Lord Mayor presided, an address to her Majesty, congratulating her on the birth of a prince, son of the Prince and Princess Frederick William of Prussia, was unanimously carried, as well as a similar one to the Prince Consort. The late town clerk handed in his resignation, and Mr. Frederick Woodthorpe was elected in his place. Both gentlemen addressed the court.

THE QUEEN AND THE CANADIANS.—At a supper given at Toronto, the Hon. Mr. Carter, the Premier, was present and said, "Gentlemen, at the last audience with which our beloved Queen honoured me, her Majesty addressed the following words to me: 'Mr. Carter, I understand that you are about leaving this country for Canada; do not fail to communicate to my loyal subjects in that province, that I take the deepest interest in Canada, and that no one more than I do desires to see its people

prosperous and happy.' This announcement produced an explosion of loyalty, the guests sprang to their feet, and made the welkin ring with their cheers.

PARCHMENT OR PAPER?—The question so summarily decided by Mr. Baron Bramwell has been settled in a contrary sense in the Supreme Court of New Brunswick. The rules of court require both in England and New Brunswick that the record and judgment roll should be engrossed on parchment. A disappointed defendant moved to set aside the proceeding on the ground that on that occasion pulp parchment, which he called paper, had been used. It was shown that the article in question was made of the skins of animals, and possessed the characteristics of parchment. The judges ruled that to all intents and purposes it was parchment.

THE EMPEROR PROMOTED.—A letter from Florence says that the Jesuits spit all their venom against France and Sardinia, and heap epithets of abuse on the French and Sardinian sovereigns. They have formally deposed Lord Palmerston from the post of Antichrist, which he has held since 1847, and installed the Emperor Napoleon III. in his stead.

WOMAN'S SPHERE.—Woman has found her true "sphere" at last. It is about twenty-seven feet round, made of hoops.—*Gateshead Observer.*

ANOTHER VICTIM.—We read in *Galignani* of Wednesday:—"Another fatal accident, caused by the over-amplitude of ladies' dresses, took place three days ago at Montpellier. A young lady, about twenty-three years of age, and belonging to one of the wealthiest families in the town, was standing near the fireplace, when her dress caught fire. At first she used every effort to extinguish the flames herself, but finding that she could not do so, she ran out of the house, and, crossing the street, went in a blaze into the porter's lodge of a house opposite. There the flames were extinguished, but the unfortunate lady was so dreadfully burnt that she died on the following day."

MICRO-PHOTOGRAPHY.—I was recently handed two small pieces of glass, [in the centre of one of which, by dint of close and painful examination, I discovered a speck of about one-sixteenth of an inch in diameter, which bore somewhat the resemblance of a portrait of a head; in the other was also a speck about one-eighth of an inch in diameter, but which I could not recognise as any particular object. By holding the first piece of glass up to the light, and looking through a powerful magnifier, I discovered a perfect portrait, and in the other a group of five portraits, equally perfect. To what use might not this mode of photographing be put! In war the most elaborate instructions might be carried in a button or the head of a pencil-case, and the General or Secretary of War needs but a magnifying glass to save the use of spies, and men from hanging; the whole archives of a nation might be packed away in a snuffbox.—*Photographic News.*

"THE POOR MAN'S CHURCH."—The Rev. W. B. Wroth, of St. Philip's, Clerkenwell, has determined upon giving up the pew-rents, from which his income was derived, and trusting for the future entirely to a free church and the offertory. The rev. gentleman, in his address on the subject, says:—"It has been a continual cause of grief to me that so few of the working classes are ever to be found within the houses of God in London, and the other large cities and towns of our land. I have heard many reasons assigned for their absence. But the reason working men themselves (surely the best judges on this point) have not unfrequently given me is of this nature, 'We don't like to go where we don't appear to be wanted—where we have to sit in seats marked "free seats," or "for the poor," and where we are made to feel our poverty more keenly by invidious distinctions.' This is what working men say; and I must confess there is a great deal of truth in the complaint."

BURAECH AND ITS MONKEYS.—The most numerous and flourishing, as they certainly were the only gay and active, population of the city were apes and monkeys. They live in high esteem among the citizens, and treat pariahs and Europeans with profound and contemptuous indifference, till they become aware of the general propensity of the latter to shy bricks at them. It is curious to watch an old patriarchal baboon when he learns, for the first time in his life, that he is exposed to personal outrage; projectile No. 1, which goes near him, he affects to believe the result of some extraordinary accident, and continues his examination of his person, or that of a friend's, with as much dignity as the avocation will permit him to exhibit. At the second brick or paving-stone, however, his faith in the doctrine of probability is shaken; he rouses himself up, stands up, and makes a menacing face at the aggressor; but as the plan of attack develops itself, and brick No. 3 flies past, followed by 4 and 5, with a chatter of rage he bounds up a tamarind tree, shakes the branches, puts on the most hideous grimaces, and really behaves very much as a noble savage would do in the same trying position. They are now busy eating tamarinds. The roads are full of them. They are on the tops of walls and houses, and in the groves, and round the convey, and by the tanks, always in the best places, never shaggy or ragged, and universally respected by their fellow-inhabitants.—*Mr. Russell in the Times.*

THE LATE PROFESSOR WURM.—This gentleman, who was well known in England, has just died at Hamburg. He was renowned as a publicist on mercantile subjects, and, during his last visit to London, appeared as a witness before the Parliamentary committee instituted for the investigation of the Stade-due question. His writings on English history are justly famous, and a larger work on this subject is contemplated from the valuable materials he has left behind. He was a warm admirer of British institutions, which he never ceased recommending to his countrymen, and possessed many personal friends amongst the best London circles.

VISIT OF AN ABYSSINIAN PRINCE TO EUROPE.—A letter from Alexandria, dated the 27th ult., says:—"We have here at this moment one of the sons of the Emperor Theodore of Abyssinia. This young Prince, who has an extremely interesting appearance, is accompanied by a numerous suite, and intends visiting Paris. He is the bearer, it is said, of magnificent presents from his father to the Emperor Napoleon."

WHITTINGTON CLUB.—On Monday evening the half-yearly meeting of the members was held. Mr. Alderman Mechi presided, and said he had examined the accounts of the club, which had his entire approval, and he was convinced that the institution was in a solvent condition. The secretary read the report, which was unanimously adopted. A managing committee was then appointed, and the proceedings closed by a vote of thanks to the chairman.

PROTESTANTISM IN ITALY.—The police in Tuscany have been very lenient of late to Protestants, and permit them to hold their conventicles, if not in safety, at least without fear of imminent danger. It has now happened that a certain Bartolomeo Gualteri, curate of San Donato al Cistio, in the diocese of Florence, informed his archbishop in a letter that he not only resigned his curacy, but that it was also his intention to abandon the Roman Catholic Church, for his conscience no longer permitted him to teach a false doctrine to the faithful entrusted to his care. The archbishop left this letter unanswered, and the curate, after having consulted his own safety by leaving the Tuscan state, and after having waited eight months without receiving any reply, published a pamphlet, entitled *A Christian's Letter to Monsignore the Archbishop of Florence*. At the appearance of this pamphlet the priesthood were struck dumb with amazement, and this the more, as the renegade priest was not only a man of excellent reputation, but also because the living he voluntarily abandoned was known to be a very lucrative one. He professed to prefer the salvation of his soul to the comforts of life, and to the affection of his family and his parishioners, who notoriously loved and respected him. The pamphlet is written with a truly edifying calmness; there are in it no exaggerations of sentiment and verbiage, and it is consequently most assiduously read by the lower classes. You will hardly believe it how seriously Papism is endangered by such small facts. But the court of Rome is also exposed to the attacks of most valorous writers, who undermine its existence by means of works of great profundity.—*Continental Review*.

THE ELDERLY GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Seventy-one members of the present House of Commons claim exemption from serving on election committees as being above the age of sixty years. The list of these worn-out veterans of the Senate includes the names of: the Hon. General Arbuthnot, Mr. J. Bagshaw, Mr. E. Ball, Colonel Boldero, Mr. Adam Black, Hon. P. E. Bouvier, Mr. W. Brown (Lancashire), Major C. Bruce (Elgin), Sir C. M. Burrell, Mr. Hales Calcraft, Mr. E. Denison (West Riding), Mr. H. Drummond, Mr. Divett, Mr. T. S. Duncombe (Finsbury), Right Hon. E. Ellice, Hon. J. E. Elliot, Sir De Lacy Evans, Sir James Graham, Mr. Hadfield, Mr. Granville Harcourt, Mr. Henley, Mr. J. Heathcoat, Mr. Hope Johnstone, Mr. W. Long, Hon. Colonel Lowther, Sir C. Napier, Sir J. Owen, Viscount Palmerston, Sir G. B. Pechell, Mr. O. Ricardo, Lord J. Russell, Mr. Poulett Scrope, Mr. Slaney, Mr. R. Spooner, Lord J. Stuart, Mr. Aspinall Turner, Sir W. Verner, Admiral Walcott, Mr. Wrightson, and General Wyndham. Sir Charles M. Burrell, the "father" of the House of Commons, is no less than eighty-five years of age, and has sat for Shoreham and the Rape of Bramber since 1806, the memorable year when the ministry of "All the Talents" (including Mr. Fox) was formed. Sir C. Burrell is only exceeded in age by Lord Lyndhurst, of the Upper House, who is in his eighty-seventh year.

SALARIES AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—Attention has been drawn by several contemporaries to the inadequate salaries paid to the able and meritorious gentlemen whose services give such efficacy to the British Museum; and truly it is a matter for national shame that when such vast sums of the public money are lavished, not to say wasted, in other directions, the country should seem to deal so niggardly by those who are among the most zealous and accomplished of her servants. We say *seem*, because we believe that it is only needed for the nation to understand the question to have it immediately remedied. Let it be remembered, in the first place, that the body of *employés* at the British Museum comprises men who are really eminent in the various departments of human knowledge to which their attention has been directed, and that their labours at the

Museum are really of a very arduous description; and then let us ask whether salaries, of which 245*l.* is the *maximum*, can be regarded as adequate remuneration? Take, for example, Mr. George Gray, whose name is known throughout the scientific world as an ornithologist of established reputation; take Mr. John Bennett, the eminent botanist: these gentlemen have served the Museum for twenty-eight and thirty-two years respectively, and are now paid such salaries as 245*l.* and 225*l.* In the library, too, where there are necessarily employed many gentlemen highly skilled in languages, this same meagre tariff prevails, and salaries are paid to linguists of world-wide reputation such as a City merchant would be sorry to give his foreign corresponding clerk. We have every reason to believe that this state of things is most unsatisfactory to Mr. Panizzi, whose active and intelligent management of the Museum has at length secured him a proper appreciation from the public, in spite of much clamour and prejudice; and we are given to understand that he has done as much as he possibly can do to induce the trustees to recommend a more liberal scale of pay. Mr. Panizzi is too great a master of the art of organisation not to know the stimulating influence which liberal pay exercises over even the most honest official; and he doubtless knows that a continuance of such a cheese-paring system cannot but be otherwise than detrimental to the interests of the Museum. So long as these gentlemen are so ill-paid, it is not to be wondered at if they employ their talents in other channels, whether by writing books or other congenial occupations. Strange indeed would it be if it were otherwise.—*Critic*.

THE WINANS STEAM-SHIP.—The novel iron steamer, built by Messrs. Winans, of Baltimore, a sketch of which recently appeared in the *Illustrated News*, has made an experimental trip. The accounts as to the result are very meagre. The *Baltimore Sun* says:—"With a pressure of fifty-six pounds of steam (half her capacity) a satisfactory headway was made. The points of the bow and stern barely touched the water, and the even progress of the vessel caused no commotion of the waves, but left a smooth wake like a groove. The steamer passed Fort Carroll until off North Point, when she was put about. The steamer returned about two o'clock yesterday afternoon, and after playing about the open water, was returned to her moorings at the yard of the builders. The average speed attained was about twelve miles an hour. The ventilation below decks was perfectly preserved during the running of the machinery, and at no time did the thermometer rise above sixty-five degrees Fahrenheit. We believe the builders regard the trial as satisfactory, and a guarantee of success when a greater distance is attempted."

THE CORPORAL AT THE PLAY.—The corporal of Dragoons who sits next me, and who has given hostages to the drama at the playhouse door, leaving there so many of his accoutrements that his bulk is diminished by about one-half, would astonish me by his presence in an orchestra-stall; but that knowing how completely it is a part of the present system in France to put the army in every conceivable way, it would not the least surprise me to hear that the members of the military profession got their places in the theatre for half the sum demanded of their more peaceful countrymen. I have, however, nothing to say against my neighbour; but, on the contrary, am proud to be able to state that he was extremely courteous and affable to me, though he was a corporal, and I only a civilian; and that he conversed freely with me between the acts, making many guileless inquiries relative to the manners and customs of the English, which it was my agreeable duty to answer in such French as I could command, and with an ingenuous modesty. What a house! What a country for the arts! The people on the Place de la Bourse to-day were talking about the new play almost as much as about francs. The corporal of Dragoons settled himself in his place, with a deep-drawn breath of prophetic satisfaction, as the curtain rose; and I proceeded, for my part, to consider the course of the play with close and critical attention.—*Dickens's Household Words*.

THE PROSPECTS OF WAR FOR FRENCHMEN.—If the thoughts of war are unwelcome in England, what a shudder runs through martial but disgusted France! Much as that warlike country loves the sword, it is, notwithstanding, true, and perfectly well known to all who have had an opportunity of observing the habits of the French peasantry, that among them the conscription is about as popular as was the appearance of a press-gang among the shipping in the Pool during the late war. Jean-Marie and Pierre-Louis have no object nearer their stout Gallic hearts than to be allowed to cultivate the paternal square furling in peace, duly subdividing the estate, and to solicit with horny hand from the ungrateful soil as many potatoes as they conveniently may. With us Sergeant Kite does the work. An unblushing brow, a voluble tongue, a bunch of ribands, and a gallon of ale seduce the young ploughmen of our agricultural districts and the idle artisans of our towns into the ranks; but they enlist of their own free will. In France they are driven to glory, when there is not money enough to purchase a *remplacement*, and how can a French peasant find money enough? Serve he must, if he draw the fatal lot. Who that has ever witnessed it can forget the anguish of that scene outside the provincial *mairie*,

when young heroes are first taken up from grass? Of course they submit, because they cannot help themselves, don the red trousers, and in time, what with the friendly *bonnes*, and the regimental band, and the pleasure of being stared at, try to persuade themselves that they like the service, which they probably do much in the same sense that an omnibus horse enjoys his daily runs from Putney to the Bank. But when there are threatenings of war, it is then that the distress of France at this military man-hunt rises to its culminating point! The effect of the few words which Louis Napoleon was pleased to inaugurate the opening of the new year must have shot like a spanner through the heart of rural France. In what cause was it that all these poor fellows were about to be instructed, first in the mysteries of the goose-step, and secondly in the far simpler process of getting their brains knocked out amid the poplars of the Lombard plains? It could not be very intelligible to them what damage had been done, what insult had been offered to themselves or their Emperor. He had spoken, however, and the *petit sergent* of destiny must be drained to the very dregs.—*Times*.

THE PAPER DUTY.—Yesterday afternoon, a deputation on the subject of the repeal of the paper duties waited upon the Earl of Derby, for the purpose of urging upon him the repeal of the paper duties. There were a large number of members of the House of Commons present, amongst whom were Mr. William Williams, Sir Joseph Paxton, Colonel Sykes, Sir John V. Shelley, Dr. Brady, Colonel French, Mr. John Locke, Mr. W. Brown, Mr. Roupell, Mr. M. Gibson, Mr. E. Craufurd, Mr. McMahon, Mr. E. Ball, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Hatchell, Mr. Salisbury, Mr. Roebuck, Mr. Ayrton, Mr. Conyngham, &c. Mr. M. Gibson introduced the deputation: Mr. Collett, Mr. Vizetelly, Mr. Cassell, Mr. Francis, Dr. Gray, Mr. Hollingshead, and Mr. Moy Thomas. Mr. W. Chambers and other gentlemen addressed his lordship, urging the usual arguments in favour of the repeal of the tax. The Earl of Derby said that in the present state of the national finances it was impossible for him to make any definite promise; and he feared that it was more probable he should have to impose new than to remove old taxes.

A POINT FOR LITIGATION.—A nice point, which may unfortunately give rise to much litigation, arises out of the recent deplorable accident at Beacon-terrace, Tisbury. It will be remembered that Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hambling, the occupants of No. 4, when removed from beneath the *débris* caused by the fall of the high wall upon their sleeping apartments, were both dead. At the Probate Court of London last week an application was made on the part of the heirs of Edward Hambling to administer to his estate. It was contended that, though the body of the wife was warm when they were extricated, it could not be proved that she survived her husband, and the heir-at-law to the latter was therefore entitled to inherit his estate, and not the heirs of the wife. The motion was granted.—*Plymouth Journal*.

A BANKER PLATWRIGHT.—We find the following in a Paris letter:—"We have had a dramatic novelty at the Palais Royal Théâtre within the last ten days, which, in spite of the public anxiety on the subject of war, has been much talked about. It is a long farce, in three acts, with the curious title of *My Niece and my Bear*, and the author is no less a personage than the famous financier and capitalist, M. Millaud! M. Millaud, who is fond of entertaining literary men, one day engaged in a discussion with some dramatic authors upon the relative difficulties of their profession and his own. The writers for the stage held that finance must be one of the easiest of occupations, and, at the same time, the most profitable. M. Millaud, on the contrary, maintained that it was exceedingly difficult, and that, in his opinion, dramatic authorship was infinitely more simple. The discussion continued with animation on both sides, until at last the millionaire offered to support his views by a practical demonstration of their soundness—in other words, to write a piece himself, a piece, too, that should please the audience and be a legitimate success! His proposal was accepted, and ratified by a bet; and the speculator turned author at once set to work upon his new employ. *My Niece and my Bear*, just produced at the Palais Royal, is the result of his labours. M. Millaud has won his wager; the piece is a real success. All the Parisian critics say so, and of course they ought to know. M. Millaud's name does not appear on the play-bill. That document assures us that M. Frascati is the author. Such is the pseudonym the financier has assumed. Of course, the production of the piece has caused a good deal of sensation in the dramatic and financial world. Well it may. What would be said in London, I wonder, if Sir R. Carr Glyn, Baron Rothschild, or Overend, Gurney, and Co., were to bring out a domestic drama for Robson at the Olympic, or a screaming farce for Mr. Wright at the Adelphi? You would be as much startled, I fancy, as though Lord Macanlay were to compose a new galop, or the Archbishop of Canterbury took it into his head to write a comic song for the Lambeth hall which bears his name."

AUSTRALIA.—The Norfolk arrived off Falmouth on Thursday evening from Melbourne, landed mails and passengers, and proceeded on her way to London. She brings on freight 7000 ounces of gold.

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, ART, &c.

LITERARY CHRONICLE OF THE WEEK.

THE publishing season is still very dull. With the exception of a *History of France*, by the Rev. J. White (W. Blackwood), and an important work on the *Colonisation of New Zealand*, by Mr. William Swinson, for many years her Majesty's Attorney-General in that colony (Smith, Elder, and Co.), there is not much to record. Perhaps the most notable matter of literary import this week is the conversation upon the paper duty held between Lord Derby and the deputation from the association for the repeal of the same at the Treasury yesterday at two o'clock—a report of which will be found elsewhere.

A curious point of literary plagiarism, though perhaps venial under the circumstances, is disclosed in the *Critic* of yesterday. It seems that, in answer to some inquisitive questions as to her age, in a review of her *Autobiography*, Sydney Lady Morgan addressed to the *Athenæum* a *morceau*, which was considered to be not so bad for one who must certainly have outnumbered the years of Ninon de l'Enclos, and which began as follows:—

TO MY REVIEWER.

My life is not dated by years,
For Time has drawn lightly his plough,
And they say scarce a furrow appears,
To reveal what I ne'er will avow.

Unfortunately, however, for the originality of this *improvisé*, a correspondent of the *Critic* remembers a little *jeu d'esprit* between Lord Byron and Lady Blessington, and which he believes to have never been printed. This is worth quoting, both for its story and for itself.

LORD BYRON.

I. You have asked for a verse, the request
In a rhyme 'twere hard to deny,
But my Hippocrene was but my breast,
And my feelings—the fountain is dry.

II.

I am ashes where once I was fire,
And the bard in my bosom is dead;
Where I loved I now only admire,
And my heart is as grey as my head.

III.

My life is not dated by years,
There are moments that act like a plough,
And there is not a furrow appears
But is deep in my soul as my brow.

LADY BLESSINGTON.

I. When I asked for a verse, pray believe,
'Twas not vanity urged the desire;
For no more can my mirror deceive,
And no more can I poets inspire.

II.

But as pilgrims who visit the shrine
Of some saint, bear a relic away—
I sought a memorial of thine
To cheer me when distant I stray.

III.

Oh, say not that lyre is unstrung,
Whose chords can such rapture bestow,
Nor that mute is this magical tongue,
From whence music and melody flow.

IV.

And tho' Time, ere thy youth it has fled,
May have alter'd thy locks' jetty hue,
Still the days that encircle thy head,
Hide the ravager's mark from our view.

We, like the correspondent of the *Critic*, are not aware that these verses have ever been printed before, and Lady Morgan may stand excused for her plagiarism, since it has led to such an interesting discovery.

It is gratifying to find that the almost unknown and unseen worker upon the press is not always left without his reward. Hitherto the complaint has been, and not unjustly, that those who cast their bread upon the waters of journalism have to wait so many days before they see it again, that in the mean time they die of starvation. Certain it is, that the great quicksands of the newspaper press swallow up many a bright and original mind which, were there no such trade as journalism, and no such means for publishing crude matter, hastily thrown off, might have matured works which would have brought them undying reputation. We are not among those who look forward very hopelessly to the

time prefigured by such enthusiasts as Mr. Bercsford Hope, who would class journalism among the regular professions. It will be time enough for that when its ranks are as bounteously supplied as are those of the "regular professions;" but in the mean time we view with pleasure and satisfaction anything that tends to prove an increase of public respect towards this "outside profession." Some weeks ago we recorded the presentation of a handsome testimonial to the editor of the *Law Times*; but this week we have two gratifying instances of a similar compliment being paid to two hardworking and comparatively unknown brothers of the pen. The first was the presentation of a purse containing five hundred pounds to Mr. Henry Adams, who has been for more than twenty years honourably connected with the Derby press. The other was the gift of a testimonial to Mr. Thomas Whitehead, lately chief reporter to the *Liverpool Advertiser*.

News of Burns matters continue to pour in from all parts of the world. America celebrated of course. What does she not celebrate? The Rev. Henry Ward Beecher delivered an address to the Burns Club of New York, and banquets were held at Astor House and the Mozart Hall. In Denmark also they celebrated, and on the evening of the 25th Professor Stephens delivered a lecture on the Ayrshire bard to the University of Copenhagen. The hall is said to have been crowded, and not only Danes, but Norwegians, Swedes, and Icelanders were present, doubtless recognising an affinity of wild and vigorous strength between the poet and their own bards—an affinity which has been already pointed out in the not very atrocious pun that there is no very great difference between Scalds and Burns. The *New York Commercial Times* announces that à propos of the Burns Festival, Messrs. Delisser and Procter announce a handsome edition of the "Life of Burns" "by that quaint biographer and deep thinker Carlyle, price fifty cents," which, we need hardly say, is nothing but a reprint of the famous review which has been purchasable on the English book-stalls for a shilling this many a day. Talking of the Burns anniversary, we are reminded that Messrs. Routledge have seized upon the hint dropped in these columns some weeks back, and announce a collection of "Rejected Addresses." The only objection is that this is a day after the fair. The competition was publicly known many months back, and the parodies should have been ready for the occasion. Now, we repeat, public interest will be found to have flagged. The project for reprinting the "six next best" poems has fallen through, owing to some objections on the part of two of the authors. The *Critic*, however, gives one of them, the contribution of Mr. Stanyan Biggs, author of "Night and the Soul," and of a recently published novel, "Alfred Staunton." Judging by this specimen, the judges seem to have dealt fairly; for, although written in good sounding language, Mr. Biggs's composition is decidedly commonplace and turgid in parts, and altogether inferior in every respect to that of Miss Isa Craig.

In France, M. Chassin has done good service by finishing the biography of Edgar Quinet, the critic who for many years wielded a powerful pen in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, and the eloquent Professor of the Languages and Literature of Southern Europe in the Collège de France. Among other publications of interest we may note "Une Visite chez Souloque," by M. Paul de Hornays, and a "Promenade en Hollande," by Madame Louise Colet. M. de Barante has republished his "History of the Maid of Orleans" from his great work on the Dukes of Burgundy. M. de Barante believes that she fell a victim to the English. What will M. Octave Delepierre say to this, who stoutly maintains that the Maid lived to outgrow all her bellicose propensities, to marry an honest farmer, and become the mother of many children? Another work which is looked for with great interest in Paris is the "Life and Correspondence of the late Duchess of Orleans," of whom Napoleon III. justly said that she was "the only man of her family," one of the few witty sayings of him on record. The editress of this memoir is spoken of as "a lady of the Faubourg St. Germain, and a daughter of one of Louis Philippe's ambassadors."

CIVILISED AMERICA.

Civilised America. By Thomas Colley Grattan, late her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the State of Massachusetts. 2 vols. Bradbury and Evans.

THAT so many English tourists and travellers should have recorded and printed their impressions of the United States and the Americans is not to be wondered at. That so few of their works should have gained for themselves more than a temporary popularity, and a mere circulating library run, at first sight elicits astonishment. But further reflection easily diminishes the first wonder. It is not wonderful that there should be a constant fresh appetite for such books. We look upon the States as a former partner of ourselves, who had interests common and identical with our own, but who, having dissolved the close bond of connexion and set up for himself, still awakes in us something of the old curiosity and solicitude; and the more so, that if not still our partner, he is yet in large measure our "correspondent," sharing with us common ventures, and, in the political field, working out what are in the main common problems.

Most seasons, for many years past, have yielded books on the States by visitors to their shores and cities; and their list has presented such individual names as Lord Carlisle, Mr. Dickens, Mrs. Trollope, Mr. Silk Buckingham, Colonels Maxwell and Estcourt, &c., each more or less confessedly presenting credentials of trustworthiness in statement of facts and expression of opinion. And yet there is not one whose pictures have not had considerable exception taken to them by the Americans themselves, and therefore been accepted by us with a reservation and unauthoritatively. Almost all these writers have been casual visitors to America; and no mere visitor, no one who has not really lived in a country, can bear away with him a truly adequate transcript of its real general characteristics. It were impossible to expect that Mr. Dickens, hastily touring over the Union, with everything ready for his eyes in its show dress, or Lord Carlisle, bowed and saluted to as a live lord, from New England seaports to the mushroom cities of the west, should tell us when they come back what America and the Americans really are.

Mr. Grattan possesses the advantage denied to them. He lived in the States during several years subsequent to 1839. The business character, equally with the official and public nature of his position as consul, have given him opportunities peculiarly favourable for forming a correct and mature judgment. His book is, in the main, not unworthy even when tested by the exigent standard by which it must in justice be measured. To be equally commended with the best books as yet written on America it must be better than any of them; and, in some respects, we believe it to be so. It has, however, undoubted faults and shortcomings. We shall ease our critical conscience by designating these at the outset.

The title chosen, *Civilised America*, is explained and justified, partly in the introduction, and partly in a map. The map, by a graduated toning of colours, of three degrees, the first and darkest marking the original thirteen states, the second those admitted previously to 1821, and the third those admitted since, and hardly freed from the probationary period of "territories," reserves only the darkest portion as the *civilised* part of the Union. The following sentences further explain the designation:—

My volumes do not intend to embrace all the topics of importance connected with the United States. There are many portions of the country which I have not seen, and much which I had little wish to see. The parts with which I was familiar are the most settled, containing the circles of greatest refinement. The days are passed when I would have more enjoyed the adventures of the prairie, the forest or the mountain range, the rude eccentricities of half-cultivated men, and the wild romance of nature. The reader has, therefore, to expect in these pages observations on the better part of the American people, an established community, who, being heirs of an earlier wisdom than it falls to the general lot of nations to inherit, form the materials of a grand experiment in civilisation, for others to follow or to shun.

Even had the acquaintance of Mr. Grattan extended to the western producing regions, as yet but sparsely held by human hands and heads, or the

ultramontane and trans-Mississippi wilds, where the prairies yet witness only their own vast solitude, or the El Dorado where gold resolves civilisation back to the barbarism whence, through the ages, it has emerged, still the amplitude of his then possible theme might fairly have suggested to him a confinement of his treatment within the sufficiently broad limits he has chosen. We have no fault, therefore, to find with the comparative narrowness of the territory he has occupied. But within his proper field we think there are one or two most cardinal omissions. First, we might have wished the book a little less urban. He depicts only men and manners. A somewhat monotonous one-sidedness would have been avoided and relieved had there been a larger canvas allowed for the picture of American mountains, rivers, and plains, and the settled, English-like, rural scenery of the purely New England States. Such depictions we know the author might have given well. Such scenes his eye must have with greater frequency and closeness regarded than the common herd of travellers. Again—and this omission we believe unpardonable, especially by one whose public office and duties brought him constantly amidst these very relations—the book gives next to no information on the industrial and commercial aspects of the American people, the most practical and generally interesting division of the subject, and rendered peculiarly valuable to us by recent events. In these, and such senses, we must declare Mr. Grattan's view incomplete. But, within his limits, self-chosen, and as we have further narrowed them, his treatment is full and copious. As a book on the political and social aspects of the States, on government, "society," literature, public men, manners, and morals, a very high commendation must be rendered. One more defraction, and we have done with that part of our office. He looks infinitely too much through "society" spectacles—he goes too much as an English gentleman to see of what stuff the American "upper ten thousand," or "upper crust" is made. It is American higher circles, rather than the American people, he writes about. He is more anxious to investigate in what respects their wealthier and more literate citizens are or are not worthy of being designated gentlemen and ladies, than to discover whether the race fosters and develops the perennial and fruitful seeds of national vigour, honesty, self-reliance, and disinterestedness. These last two faults we have ventured to point out we cannot regard as other than cardinal.

Perhaps the highest element of worth these volumes possess is their *historical* value. Mr. Grattan's residence in America, and the nature of his position, not merely official, but semi-diplomatic, have combined to give him this vantage-ground. He was much within the inner circle of politics, and saw much of the machinery of government, both at Washington, and in local capitals. He speaks with authority on the characters and pretensions of such men as Everett, Calhoun, Webster, and Clay; because he saw and knew them, and regarded all their public life from the same point of view and with the same advantages as their partisans and fellow-citizens. On such matters, again, as the annexation of Texas, the North-Eastern Boundary question, Mormonism, and the like, his statements and opinions have the same peculiar value. Let us add, as two more excellences from many we might still cite, the book is not hastily got up; the opinions have not only been necessarily constructed and reconstructed slowly, but the structure and workmanship in which they form and express themselves bear the same marks of care and preparation. And there is a most healthy and rare abjuration of fine or fast writing. He successfully steers through the narrow channel between the two rocks on one or other of which most writers of this class founder. He is never dull. He is animated, light, and lively, without ever degenerating into the forced flippancy and theatrical scene-painting, which, at the present day so overload descriptive literature. His style is of the now almost defunct, easy, gentlemanly, classic English character.

What space remains to us we can best occupy by one or two extracts from the most interesting parts of the volumes before us. The following street-picture fairly condenses "first impressions":—

The streets of the "Atlantic cities," as the seaport towns are called, are altogether deficient in the air of lounging and lazy life which well-dressed men of leisure and the many varieties of *vagabondage* give to the towns of the Continent, and, in a minor degree, to those of the

British Isles. But there is much bustle and business vivacity. The thoroughfares are full of well-clad, plain-looking, serious-visaged men, and women in all the gaudiness of over-dressed pretension. The flaunting air of these ladies, their streaming feathers and flowers, silks and satins of all colours, and a rapid dashing step as they walk along, singly or in couples, give foreigners a widely mistaken notion of them. They look, in fact, like so many nymphs of the *paré*; for no other class of females in Europe are at all like them; and many awkward mistakes take place in consequence. But in proportion as the American ladies lose much of the retiring modesty so common in their sex by this habit of independent promenading, the streets gain largely in the glare and glitter of the fair *piétons*.

The present raging of the dining controversy amongst ourselves tempts us to extract the following:—

The style of every-day living among even the wealthiest people is very simple and unexpensive. But little wine is drunk in the more domestic circle, and plain English cookery is alone usual. Eating and drinking, *en famille*, is a mere operation of appetite, without any social feeling connected with it; and the more quickly and least expensively it can be performed the better. But the overloaded table, and the interminable varieties of wine, at a regular dinner given to company, form a striking contrast to the family meal. At these dinners all the good things of the place abound; and they are well served, for the best cook in the town is sure to be hired for the occasion. Poultry, and wild fowl, largely preponderate among the more solid portions of the repast; sometimes, indeed, to the entire exclusion of butchers' meat. A high-flavoured, but half-starved, fatless kind of venison is considered a kind of dainty. It is always served disgustingly underdone—almost raw sometimes—on pewter or tin plates, standing over burners with spirits of wine, to enable each person to cook it in a thick gravy according to his fancy. This is a very disagreeable process to witness. I never was tempted to undertake it.

Mr. Grattan shrugs his shoulders with sybarite disgust at the cookery of the States, which, as an art, he proclaims in its infancy among them, and warningly reminds them of the aphorism, "La destinée des nations dépend de la manière dont elles se nourrissent."

A chapter devoted to the consideration of the important question, "Are the Americans a happy people?" carries the reader to the negative conclusion that they are not unhappy—that they are strangers alike to the excesses of joy or of grief. But, as Mr. Grattan correctly puts it: "Whether the flutter of heart and the throbbing of brain, under deeper and fiercer excitements, are more noble and more desirable, is a question of temperament not of philosophy, and every individual must answer it from and for himself."

We would we had been able to add further quotations we had selected from the chapters on "The Irish in America," Fine Arts, Religious Sects, American Women, Slavery, Speculative Philosophy, &c. But what our space has permitted us to give must serve as sample of a book with faults of no mean importance, but with solid excellences almost solely its own, and peculiarly readable and entertaining.

THE TRADE OF RUSSIA.

The Trade of Russia, considered from a European Point of View. By B. A. Kokoreff. Wertheimer and Co.

This is a remarkable utterance of "Young Russia;" not the "Young Russia" of conspiracies and revolutions dreaming of republics to be made without republicans, and of impossible leaps from barbarism to a civilisation and liberty that can only result from centuries of slow and toilsome progress, but of the Young Russia of trade, agriculture, and commerce, making up to a full consciousness of the backward state of his country, and having the good sense to prefer industrial development to the brutal pomp of soldiery and conquest that constituted the main life of Russian sovereigns from Peter to Nicholas, and whose failure appropriately consigned the latter potentate to a dishonoured grave.

M. Kokoreff is one of the most remarkable men of the day. Raised by his own industry and talent from the serf to the millionaire, he is the constant adviser of the Emperor and the head of innumerable schemes and enterprises of an industrial kind. The present little work, which in the time of the late Czar would have consigned its author to Siberia, was first published in Russia, and is now offered in an English dress in the hope of interesting our merchants and statesmen in a series of measures calculated to increase the productiveness of Russia and multiply her commercial relations with this and

other countries. In very much that M. Kokoreff says, we heartily concur, but it seems to us that he is anxious to put his country prematurely into the manufacturing stage of development. It is possible that some articles now exported in a raw state might be advantageously prepared on the spot, either wholly or partially, but the primary and chief object of a patriotic Russian should be the cultivation of the soil and the provision of adequate means of transport and communication. M. Kokoreff sees this necessity, and has honourably distinguished himself by the establishment of a large model farm, and by sending persons at his own expense to England and Scotland to study scientific methods of agriculture, and the application of drainage and machinery; but he talks of setting up manufactures at a rate that is quite inconsistent with the very limited capital that Russia possesses, and with the possibilities of a very thinly-scattered population. In this country we have a prodigious amount of capital, abundant communication, and an average of 233 persons to a square mile. Russia has very little capital proportioned to her size, scarcely any means of communication, and, except in Poland, no density of population. Great Russia, with Moscow for its centre, has sixty-two inhabitants per square mile; Little Russia (south of the latter) 78.4; while New Russia, bordering on the Black Sea, has only 33.7; and the northern provinces as few as 2.6 inhabitants per square mile. Such a country has plenty to do to be agricultural, and a premature effort to be manufacturing would be a fatal step.

The purely artificial character of Russian civilisation has long been a matter of comment, and its result is a thorough demoralisation of the upper classes, who are the most frivolous and licentious in Europe, and form a worthy apex to the official corruption which everywhere prevails. Fortunately, the present Emperor sets an example of economy, and is determined to carry out his grand project of emancipating the serfs and encouraging industrial pursuits; and all hopes of Russia's becoming a worthy member of the European family will depend upon the success of these plans. M. Kokoreff gives us some startling facts, which, although not new, come with remarkable justness from a Russian pen. He tells us that his journey to Europe, and especially to England, filled him with astonishment at the amount of produce consumed at home; and he was much struck with the conduct of English squires, who, in taking him over their estates, always knocked at the cottage door instead of entering abruptly, as they would do in a cowhouse or dog kennel.

A few extracts will show that notwithstanding a little French polish on the surface of the nobles and merchants, the general condition of Russia is not unlike that of England in the days of King John, except in being much worse. The following passage, in which agriculture is contrasted with industry, as if it were a non-industry, sounds funny to English ears, but its meaning is apparent:—

At every step one makes in Russia, one is struck with the wide distance that separates agriculture from industry. Suppose, for example, that you spend an evening in a Moscow or St. Petersburg saloon: you find here lamps, carpets, gastronomic rarities; a host of servants decked out with gold-lace embroidery; the masters of the house and their guests richly and elegantly dressed: it is to industry that all this splendour, all this comfort is owing, and everything seems to prove to you that that all that appertains to the external life of the upper classes is as fully developed in Russia as in any part of Europe. Leave, however, this brilliant saloon, and proceed to the street to look for a cabman (*istovoschik*): this *istovoschik* is a peasant, that is to say, a representative of the forces and of the state of agriculture. What a wretched object presents itself to your notice! You have before you a lean jade, harnessed with ropes, and a poor man clothed with rag. This harness and costume, almost always manufactured by the man himself, evidence the backwardness of the agricultural class.

We can easily sympathise with M. Kokoreff in condemning the wasteful expenditure of the nobles while capital is so desperately needed for the cultivation of the soil; but his condemnation of articles of luxury goes too far, and the excesses he deprecates will cure themselves, by rendering bankrupt those who practise them, when their estates will pass into better hands. Trade with Russia is thus explained:—

Europe is mistaken in imagining that in exporting its wares to us, it is trading with Russia. Not so, indeed! All our shops, dealing in foreign goods, in Moscow, St. Petersburg, and the capital towns of the Government,

exist only for the nobility, the merchants, and the functionaries, that is to say, for about a million of people. It may also be allowed that the tradespeople of the towns and some peasants, an aggregate of about one million, consume manufactured goods of an inferior description, the raw material of which is imported from abroad. It follows, that in reality Europe trades not with Russia, but with two millions of Russians, amongst the sixty-two millions which form her population. This shows also the lamentably extravagant proportions which luxury has attained in Russia, because all its imports, which amount to so considerable a value, are distributed amongst only two millions of individuals.

Two more short extracts will afford a vivid picture of the condition of the people, and enable idolaters of despots to see the value of a succession of barbarous rulers wasting upon aggressive wars capital that would have sufficed to raise the permanent condition of millions of their people.

It should be remembered, in reading the first paragraph, that no small portion of the slaughtering of beasts in Russia is for the sake of the tallow, and that the meat is thrown away:—

The rearing of cattle in England takes place on a scale which is, indeed, widely different from that in Russia; one slaughters there annually ten times as many beasts as in Russia; and nevertheless England imports from Russia hides and tallow to a large amount, so great is in that country the consumption of those products, or, more correctly speaking, to so great extent does the English people possess the means of support, and even of comfort! There exists still, it is true, some misery in Ireland, but there is a probability that this misery will cease with the introduction of drainage, projected by the formation of various companies.

As to the tallow, it will find in the interior of the country a still readier sale than the corn. When the peasants will be able to substitute the candle for those nasty chips of wood that injure the sight, interrupt work, occasion numerous conflagrations, and which they use for want of better, for lighting their cabins, in all the northern and central parts of Russia, we shall scarcely have enough of tallow to supply our home consumption. The same may be said of the hides required for the boots that are to replace those shoes made of the bark of trees, now in use in a good half of Russia. We cannot but believe, at least we should be very sorry not to believe, that these things will one day become necessities.

PHILIP THE SECOND.

History of the Reign of Philip II., King of Spain. By William H. Prescott. Vol. III.

Routledge, Warrnes, and Routledge.

We are here presented with the third volume of Mr. Prescott's invaluable history of the celebrated monarch, King Philip II. It exhibits to us, in *limine*, the picture of the great struggle between the Morisco apostate and the Spanish Catholic. It is a stirring, animated scene, full of contrasts natural and moral. Mr. Prescott is just the writer to bring the subject out in all its terror and all its beauty. What a personal interest, too, belongs to the history of John of Austria, the natural son of the Emperor Charles V., whose first entrance into public life is at an *auto de fé*! Such was the first lesson of his education. To that, as well as to his subsequent studies, no doubt he "gave due attention." Those studies were mainly connected with the art of war. Perfect in chivalrous accomplishments, he sighed for some field on which he could display them. "The knowledge of his real parentage filled his soul with a generous ambition, and he longed by some heroic achievement to vindicate his claim to his illustrious descent."

His premature effort to take part in the famous siege of Malta in 1564, made him as popular in the country as attractive to the court. His royal brother soon found employment for him, in the nominal command of a fleet fitted out against the Barbary corsairs. His lieutenant, and the man really responsible for the expedition, was Antonio de Zúñiga Requesens. See, too, how the moral attributes of the business were regarded:—

On the 3rd of June, Don John sailed out of port, at the head of as brave an armament as ever floated on the waters of the Mediterranean. The Prince's own vessel was a stately galley gorgeously fitted up, and decorated with a profusion of paintings, the subjects of which, drawn chiefly from ancient history, and mythology, were of didactic import, intended to convey some useful lesson to the young commander. The moral of each picture was expressed by some pithy maxim inscribed beneath it in Latin. Thus, to whatever quarter Don John turned his eyes, they were sure to fall on some homily for his instruction; so that his galley might be compared to a volume richly filled with illustrations,

that serve to impress the contents on the reader's memory.

We next meet this favoured son of fortune in Granada; and with all this moral training, we find him an inflexible warrior. We pity the poor Moriscos, who could expect, from such a hero, "such justice only as comes from the hand of an enemy." The removal of the Moriscos, as the result of his operations, is depicted with power and pathos by the historian. The moral, too, is properly enforced. The oppressors suffered not only from the reaction but from the immediate results of the oppression. Such were the natural consequences "of that system of religious intolerance which had converted into enemies those who, under a beneficent rule, would have been true and loyal subjects, and who by their industry and skill would have added incalculably to the resources of the country." So much for the peculiar moral education of Prince John, who possessed, however, some noble qualities and a magnanimous disposition.

But these virtues, under a system of bigotry, only add to the mischief to which they are made ancillary. Another name, nearly as great as his own, starts up also on the Morisco side—that of Aben-Abou—and fills up many a page of romantic adventure. It was the battle of Paladín and Panim, and is replete with all the pomp and circumstance of warlike heroism. The central figure of each opposing body is a truly grand object. The monstrous irregularity that characterised the whole of the proceedings only renders them more strange, startling, and interesting. Siege, assault, and massacre in turn brought on the stage all the horrors of war. And what if the final triumph appeared to rest with the Paladín—even this was a delusion; for, in the words of the Castilian proverb, quoted by our author, "If Africa had cause to weep, Spain had little reason to rejoice."

The fame of his exploits, and his successful cruelties, atrocious as they were, against the Morisco apostates and infidels, as they were regarded, pointed out Don John to Rome as the champion of Christendom, and the baton of Generalissimo of the formidable league which the Pope was then organising against the Ottoman Empire was entrusted to his hands.

With this war against the Turks, and the domestic affairs of Spain, the remainder of the volume is occupied. The stout-hearted Pius V. was then Pontiff, and Philip II. was his faithful ally. The preparations were on a colossal scale and consecrated with gorgeous ceremonies, pious masses, and other religious rites. On the 16th of September, 1571, a magnificent armament, unrivalled by any which had yet ridden on the Mediterranean since the days of imperial Rome, stood out to sea. The Papal Nuncio, dressed in his pontificals, took a prominent station on the Mole, and as each vessel passed successively before him, he bestowed on it his apostolic benediction. Then, without postponing a moment longer his return, he left Messina and hastened back to Rome to announce the joyful tidings to his master. The Battle of Lepanto is described with great spirit. The result proved that the Turks were no longer invincible at sea. Nevertheless, the Porte was enabled to enter into a separate treaty with Venice on the 7th of March, 1573, by which the republic agreed to pay a large annual sum to the Sultan, and to cede the island of Cyprus, the original cause of the war. So fruitless, in general, are bloody victories.

In estimating the state of Spain at this time, Mr. Prescott rightly takes into consideration the tastes, habits, and prejudices of the Spaniards, and portrays the character of her monarch with the skill of a master. He demonstrates that, though sedentary, he was not indolent. He was intellectually active, but he was too fond of doing everything himself. This caused delay in business which sometimes made the royal decision arrive too late for the purpose intended. There were indications, however, that the important sixteenth century had commenced, and that a great change was coming on the world. The reign of mind had begun, though yet encountered with persecution and opposition. The fourth queen of the gloomy monarch, Anne of Austria, shed an air of gaiety over the manners of the Court. She was fond of diversions. Among them we find mention made of *autos sacramentales*, a series of religious dramas resembling the ancient Mysteries and Moralities of our own country—a significant fact for both.

It only remains to add that this volume fully sustains the character of the author for care, accuracy, and elegance.

WINTER EVENINGS.

Winter Evenings. By Leitch Ritchie. Two Vols.

Hurst and Blackett.

PLEASANT volumes these, by the author of *Schinderhannes* and *The Magician*. The novelist and the essayist both merit praise. The initial paper describes a Christmas party, the members of which are supposed to contribute the different papers in the form of conversations at subsequent meetings. Conformable to this idea, the articles are composed in a familiar style, and seldom rise above a certain level. Grandiloquence there is none, and they are all the better on that account. The subjects are for the most part interesting, and of all kinds, from the philosophical to the narrative, from the scientific fact to the instructive fable, constituting altogether a miscellany of very agreeable reading. We recognise, however, nothing either profound or subtle; what might be expected, however, we find, a characteristic shrewdness, and a quiet natural humour.

In the second volume, there is one essay that deserves to be distinguished as of great literary service. It proposes to remove, and does effectually remove, from Milton the opprobrium of having been flogged or rusticated at Cambridge. The charge was originally brought by Aubrey, who stated it in the coarsest manner. Milton, he dared to write, was "vomited, after an inordinate and riotous youth, out of the university." To this infamous accusation Milton replied indignantly, thanking his accuser for the "commodious lie," since it had given him "an apt occasion to acknowledge publicly, with all grateful mind, the more than ordinary favour and respect which I found, above any of my equals, at the hands of those courteous and learned men, the fellows of my college, wherein I spent some years; who, at my parting, after I had taken two degrees, as the manner is, signified many ways how much better it would content them that I should stay; as by many letters full of kindness and loving respect, both before that time and long after, I was assured of their singular good affection towards me." In another place, he says, that his father sent him to college, where he studied for seven years with the approbation of the good, and without any stain upon his character, till he took the degree of Master of Arts.

These denials are positive, and might have settled the question, but that Milton had written a Latin elegy, addressed to his friend Diodati, in which he seems to confess to a fault, in the following lines. The crimiatory words are printed in italics:—

Me tenet urbs refusa quam Thamesis alluit unda,
Meque nec invitum patria dulcis habet.
Jam nec arundiferum mihi cura revivere camum,
Nec dudum vetiti me laris angit amor.

Si sit hoc exilium patrios adliasse penates,
Et vacuum curis otia grata sequi,
Non ego vel profugum nomen sortemve recuso,
Latus et exilii conditioe fruor.

Dr. Johnson, among others, put such an interpretation on these phrases in italics that, in his life of Milton, he wrote:—"I am ashamed to relate what I fear is true, that Milton was one of the last students in either university that suffered the public indignity of corporal correction."

The mistaken view of these lines shows how little, after all, the Latin tongue has really been understood among us, even by scholars; and Milton's fame has suffered exclusively from this general ignorance. The occasion of the elegy, in the first place, was never considered. The poem was written in *London* during a vacation, in the poet's eighteenth year, and addressed to Diodati, his schoolfellow and friend, who had addressed from Cheshire an epistle to Milton, in which he condoled with him on his absence from it during the vacation, and poetically spoke of this temporary separation as a state of exile. Milton objects to this view, referring, by the phrase *dudum vetiti laris* not to his cheerless apartments in Christ's College, Cambridge, as supposed, but to his home, his father's *fireside*, which during term-time had, by the discipline of his college, been lately forbidden him. This is the plain and literal meaning of the passage. The usual and mischievous one is a figurative interpretation which the poet could not have intended, and which it requires much straining to make out. "Milton," says Dr. Maclure, to whom Mr. Ritchie is indebted for his remarks, "was too good a Latinist ever to employ the word *lar* for a purpose so unsuitable." "When read in this light," continues the Doctor, "the passage assumes consistency with itself, with other portions of Milton's writings,

and with the register of his college; and what is perhaps of higher importance, while it rescues the memory of the greatest poet and one of the ripest scholars of England from a shade that has long rested on it, it deprives giddy and thoughtless youth of a precedent they are fond of quoting for their own irregularities and contumacy."

The following is a slightly paraphrased rendering of the lines above quoted:—

The city which the Thames laves with reflowing wave
detains me,
And my sweet native place possesses me not against my will;

Now I have neither a desire to revisit the reedy Cam,
Nor does the love of my father's fireside, lately forbidden
me (during Term-time) torment me.

If this be what you call exile—to have visited my
father's household gods,
And, free from cares, to follow charming leisure—
I refuse not the name or the lot of a banished man,
And gladly I enjoy the condition of exile.

Nothing can be clearer than that this, and this only, is Milton's meaning. The translation given by Dr. Johnson of *retiti laris* seems little less than absurd, so strong was the Tory dogmatist's desire to find Milton in the wrong. The word *lar*, as Mr. Ritchie himself observes, is one of the most expressive in the language. It is not merely "a habitation;" it is a home in the deepest meaning of the term—a hearth hallowed by the spiritual presence of the household god. It is quite beyond belief that an accomplished Latinist like Milton could apply such a name to his solitary room at a college of which he takes so little pains to conceal his dislike and contempt.

We have dwelt more on this than we might else have done, to show that Mr. Ritchie's book is not compiled of merely light and trifling essays and tales, but also contains some instructive contributions to our literary knowledge.

LIFE AND ORGANISATION.

Outlines of Physiology. By John Hughes Bennett, M.D., F.R.S.E., &c. Edinburgh: Adam & Charles Black.

"*LIFE*," says the *Edinburgh Review*, in an article bearing the above title, "includes the greatest of all the problems submitted to human thought. All distinctions and diversities are trifling in comparison to the distinction between inanimate matter and living organisms." On this topic, considering with the reviewer that it is extremely important, we propose to make a few remarks, not taking much notice, however, of the ill-written and confused article in which it is discussed at great length. Nor shall we say anything further of the book of which the title is prefixed, than that it is a very concise and useful manual, chiefly devoted to human physiology.

"By discovering," says Mr. Herbert Spencer, in his *Principles of Psychology*, "that certain things shrink when touched, or fly away when approached, or start when a noise is made, the child first roughly discriminates between the living and the not living; and a man, when in doubt whether an object he is looking at be dead or not, stirs it with a stick, shouts, or throws a stone at it." This explains the common idea of life, and it implies only an inherent power of self-motion when acted on by external causes. It is formed in childhood, continues with us to the end of our career, and guides all our actions in treating living organisms. The same writer, however, after much elaborate discussion of what the definition ought to be, defines life as "the continued adjustment of internal relations to external relations." Other writers have called it the "sum total of the functions which resist death." "Organisation in action," &c. There are, therefore, two prevalent ideas of life—the one formed from first impressions, formed in childhood, remaining throughout our existence, and apparently common to us all; the other formed from close, minute, and continued observation of the structure and functions of living creatures, and limited, in the first instance, to those who study physiology. The former is the esoteric, and the latter the esoteric, side of human knowledge. In every branch there is the same distinction. Ideas formed from first and general impressions—as our perception of the sun rising in the east and setting in the west—the origin of the idea of the movement of that luminary and all the host of heaven—are generally different from, and sometimes totally at variance, as this is, with those formed from continued observation, and called scientific. We must remember this distinction to avoid being puzzled

by philosophical discussions about life and matter, and space and force, and such abstractions; and also remember, that to whatever conclusions philosophers may be led by observations continued from age to age, they make no pretence to change or upset the ideas formed from first impressions, formed in childhood, and constituting in the main the conscious life of all. They only teach us, exciting wonder and reverence, that the last conclusions to which continuous observation leads, are different from those formed from first impressions, by which we guide our conduct.

We readily extend, under the guidance of science, the common idea of life from animals and insects to mollusca, vegetables, &c., till we reach, in company with philosophers, the present conclusion of the poet:

See through this air, this ocean, and this earth,
All matter quick and bursting into birth.

The air is vocal with myriads of insects. Every bucket of sea-water is full of life: the ocean teems with vitality. The surface of the earth, the field, the rock, is alive with vegetables and animals. The sand, the sea-shore, and the solid rock itself are the remains of life. Great beds of coal, many fathoms deep, and many miles of extent, were once thriving forests. All the strata of the earth bear witness to the fact that life has for ever, *i.e.* before our knowledge begins, existed on its surface. Including vegetation, life serves to nourish other life. Animals are sustained by it, and animals live on one another, even the most exalted supply nutriment and life to other and meaner animals. The whole perceptible universe is alive. Downwards, this has been traced to the minutest films the microscope has discovered; upwards, though a notion of a scale of being indefinitely extensive in both directions has long been prevalent, it stops at man, "the head, the heart, and tongue of all." The ox, the horse, the elephant, the whale, the shark—as well as many now extinct species of animals—have bigger bodies than man, but they are his servants, or his slaves. They are pignions in intellect compared to him, and seem created for his use. Between man and the planets, though our literature teems with notices of angels and spiritual existences of various kinds, no organised beings have been yet discovered endowed with life and standing higher in the scale than man.

These facts suggest two very important questions; the first is, What are the chief attributes of the life universally diffused? To the inherent power of self-motion the writer in the *Review* adds the "wonderful power of reproduction which maintains the continuity of the species;" and insists earnestly that "no definition of life can be complete without it." Imperfect as our knowledge may yet be, we know our own life better than we know the life of others. From our own life we must reason to the life of others; and its chief distinction and attribute is Consciousness. We are conscious of life: Science informs us by demonstrating the continual flux and re-formation of the body, and by demonstrating the impossibility of our getting at any knowledge of matter beyond its forces or the impressions it makes on us, that the sum total of our life is consciousness, and nothing but consciousness. From this great fact what can we infer but that all other life is consciousness, or attended by consciousness? That the dog, and the horse, and the elephant, and the crocodile, and the shark, and the snake, are conscious—conscious of danger, conscious of man's presence, if they see him, conscious of pleasure and of pain—is certain. Must we not extend the fact and principle to all life? Comparative anatomists trace one type or one form throughout the animal kingdom, and on their principle we infer one moral form similar to their one type, one consciousness, varying according to the variations in the type through all life. On the usual and well-accredited supposition of a uniformity of design throughout creation such a conclusion is inevitable. Our life is in the main consciousness, and if scientific language have any meaning and be precise and definite, the sum of all life must in the main be consciousness.

Another important fact is that all consciousness is pleasure or pain. The chief if not the first conceptions of the infant in the mother's arms are pleasant, it dances with delight. So the gratifications of our appetites and passions every day of our lives is a pleasure; and so is the last discovery of a Faraday as to the qualities of bodies or forces; and the last discovery of a Herschell of new dwellers, double or single, or new roamers in the milky-way. Thus our consciousness is generally a stream of enjoyment; and, arguing from what we feel and

know, to what we cannot feel and know, the consciousness of other beings, we infer that all consciousness and all life is on the whole a stream of enjoyment. The hum of insects, the twittering of birds, the song of man, all testify to the fact that life is pleasure. Individuals perish, races, species of all kinds are continued, life is transmitted from one to another, or reproduced, and perishes not. The stony records of the earth inform us that life was before our time, and our limited experience of its continual reproduction convinces us that it will be after our time. In this sense it is eternal. In the same sense consciousness is eternal. It was before us, and will be after us. Every person who has ever given the matter a thought is aware that time and space are reciprocally the measures of one another, or rather observed motion is the common measure of both. Life, consciousness, enjoyment, are diffused therefore through time and through space; they were before and will be after us, which is synonymous with their being eternal.

We do not overlook the common theory that life is a burden and pain an evil, opposed though it be to the universal practice of striving to preserve life, when it can be voluntarily laid down by individuals and of seeking enjoyment; and acknowledging, as who can deny, the existence of pain, it seems a very small part of life. The cessation of consciousness is not pain; disease and suffering, much as we hear of them, in order to incite us if possible to remove them, are exceptions to the general rule, and form only a small part of the life of an individual or of a nation. The advanced classes of society, who have the most influence over opinion, seem always to imagine that the condition from which they have advanced is one of suffering, and so they are induced to promote improvement for others. For those who are regularly fed every day, comfortably clothed, and luxuriously lodged, it is a great suffering to be deprived of a meal, to be ragged, shoeless, and homeless. To the poor, accustomed to such circumstances from the beginning of their existence, as to the savage who has never known an improved condition, the actual suffering from them is much less than opulent and civilised observers suppose. Habit is second nature. God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb; "nature is kind alike to all," and the exaggerated sympathy generally felt at the outward signs of suffering, prompting to lessen it, shows how fully and completely enjoyment is an attribute of life. As we infer from our own love and pursuit of pleasure a similar love and pursuit in other life, conversely, we may infer from the pleasure which all inferior life manifests that the conscious life of man is intended to be pleasure, and that the order of nature is contravened by the apparent sufferings of the multitude throughout Europe. Pain is a warning and a guide, it teaches us to provide for the preservation of the body, and to secure greater enjoyment through a longer period; but it is only an occasional cross current, impelling us into a new course in the great and everflowing stream of enjoyment.

Life is known to us as an inherent power of self-motion, and industry is life in motion to sustain life. Insects, birds, and other animals, as well as man, exert themselves to obtain the means of subsistence. The labour which builds up great cities, cultivates and adorns the earth, and covers the ocean with steam-ships, resembles in motives and objects the chase of birds after insects and carnivorous beasts after their destined prey. It is one attribute of universal life, and is so suitable to the structure of our frames that the exertion which is necessary to obtain subsistence preserves them in health. Without exertion the body is but half developed. Instinct prompts it in infancy, continues it in youth, and habit confirms it in maturity. Men and women sing at their work as birds and insects express their gladness as they roam after their food. It is plainly, therefore, a mistake to suppose, because labour has been unwisely connected with slavery, that labour is a pain. Next to life itself, nothing should be more holy and sacred than the industry by which it is subsisted. It is not artificial, not ordained by a state, not called into being by legislation; it belongs to all life. It is the means by which all life is sustained. To restrict it is to maim or to mar life, and is next door to infanticide or manslaughter. "You take my life when you take that whereby I live." And so a state takes away or diminishes life when it impedes industry.

Life being universal and eternal, our life, high as it is in the scale, is only an atom of a great whole. Life, too, lives on life. Matter is organised before it can

be assimilated by the higher classes of animals. The means of building up their frames is organised matter. Matter once organised, too, and now found many fathoms beneath the earth's surface, supplies many of man's wants, and is even necessary to the existence of society in its present form. Life, the most remote in time that we have yet formed any conception of, the life embedded in coal, forms part of our life. In like manner, life—the most remote in space—the life embodied in a tea life, or a coffee bean, forms part of our life, and is as much a necessity of existence, though it became known to us at a late period, as the coal we dig from the mines, the oxen we fatten, and the corn we produce by our industry.

Departing from the ordinary physiological mode of treating this subject, we have endeavoured briefly to point out, in plain language, some of the chief attributes of life. To those who have closely scrutinised the external world with all the aids of modern arts, and have traced life in invisible atoms, and who can draw no feasible line of demarcation between vegetable and animal life, the world is deeply indebted. The multitudinous variety of forms, all nevertheless of one type, which they have discovered and described, fills us with wonder at the minuteness and yet magnificence of that creation of which man forms a part. It is not our purpose to follow their researches into the beds of the ocean, the forests, and climates of the earth, nor take any special notice of the minute creatures they have made us acquainted with. We have finished our brief statement of some of the chief attributes of life, and the second important question which arises from its wide diffusion, below man—What is the life above man? for neither the popular faith nor scientific discoveries justify the supposition that there is no life higher than his between him and his Creator—we may advert to hereafter.

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Unprotected Females in Sicily, Calabria, and on the top of Mount Etna. One vol.

Routledge, Warnes, and Routledge.

A CAPITAL title for a book; as good as the *Unprotected Females in Norway*, which came from the same pen. It freshens up the subject—at least in appearance. Sicily is known to every man of a wandering disposition who at any time during the year has a six weeks' vacation, and fifty pounds to spare for letters of credit. The eruptions of Mount Etna have been described by the forcible writer, have been chatted about by the agreeable rattle, have been discoursed upon by the scientific investigator, and it only remains for the political economist to tell us what effect they have upon the local rents. Men who used to be content with a perusal of the account of the great earthquake at Lisbon, have now experienced many mild shocks of such convulsions of nature, and describe their sensations (in their own inimitably funny manner) as being very similar to what they felt when walking home from a club-dinner. Calabria has been "done" by high-pressure tourists, to say nothing of commercial travellers, and its picturesque brigands (which we see, by the way, upon every drop-scene at every theatre) are reduced by calculation to the prosaic level of a per-centage. As the turnpike-trusts in England are to foreigners, so are the brigands' fees abroad to English travellers. There is nothing more in it, except a property-dagger to collect this property-tax.

Children of the sunny South—hot-blooded, fierce-eyed, ready with the stiletto even over the family dinner-table if the macaroni lacks its proper flavour (so travellers used to tell us), are now familiar to us in the persons of Dutch-looking burghers in many parts of our metropolis, peacefully rolling the chocolate-stick in the chocolate-can, or selling us palatable summer refreshment in the shape of penny ices. We know them all—there is nothing new under the sun. Our most popular and our cheapest periodicals talk to us as complacently of the cavaliers, the garçon, and the ichvostchik, as they would of the man at the potato-can round the corner. They are supposed to be our bosom friends in this cosmopolitan age, when a dance of Zulu Kaffirs is considered one of the stock entertainments of a suburban tea-garden.

Why should we look beyond the title-page of the book before us?—Because two "unprotected females" are doing the journey. Two ladies—mother and daughter—strong-minded—not particularly able-bodied—a little masculine, perhaps—the

youngest good-looking (so we gather slyly from the pages)—having tried the inhabitants of the snowy North, and finding them attentive but not rude, go boldly to the other extreme of European civilisation—even into the veritable camp of Don Giovanni himself—and meet with nothing more dreadful than one offer of marriage! Has gallantry fled, or are Amazons at a discount? Norway we are not surprised at; but Italy? Shame. Within sight of the Barbary coast, and no interesting pirates to carry them off. The whole world is running to utilitarian seed. Medora stands upon the sea-shore sighing for Conrad; but Conrad has gone into the Newcastle-collier trade, and is running a profitable cargo of tobacco under the innocent-looking shield of the friendly Wall's-end.

Our unprotected, or rather uninsulated, females, ascend their mountains, their volcanoes, and their cathedrals; they see the ragged lazzaroni begging in the streets, and the waggons loaded with the produce of the fruitful vine; they visit monasteries, inns, and theatres; they talk of ladies' legs, and gentlemen's clothing (he!); they see fat Jesuits, and jolly priests, and they hear the music of the mandoline; they gaze upon ruined temples that stand upon bleak hills, and which, like Stonehenge, are picturesque, but drafty; they are shown old paintings of Madonnas del All-sorts-of-things, but especially of the colours of a Westphalia ham; they try if monks will flirt (for shame!), and find that they will; they wander in orange-groves; and they are amused with a poincetto show at Naples; finally, they return home with copious notes, and in excellent spirits, and, as quickly as possible, they tell us all about it.

May the old lady, after this, retire upon her well-earned traveller's laurels; and the young lady take her next journey in the company of a lawful protector!

RIGHT OR WRONG.

Right or Wrong. By Geraldine E. Jewsbury. Two vols. Hurst and Blackett.

It is a difficult thing for novel writers, now-a-days, to hit upon anything very fresh, or to venture into regions of fancy or life that have not already been tolerably well explored. But novel readers of fashion are exigent. They must have their spring and autumn literary luxuries; they will no more do without their early and late novel than they will do without early peas or late pineapples. Hence the difficulty of supplying the literary market with anything very original. Writers content themselves with recasting old incidents, remodelling old characters, redistributing old situations, and, by the help of style and seasoning, manage to furnish forth a supply of seasonable novels, pretty sure to sell, and to have an ephemeral popularity. Miss Jewsbury has already made for herself an approving public. Her published novels have prepared her readers to receive new works from her pen with pleasure, and though we cannot promise in *Right or Wrong* that they will find anything very *recherché*, still enough of the genius of the writer and of striking incident will be found to ensure a warm welcome to the work.

Miss Jewsbury has selected two main incidents as the groundwork of her novel: the first, that of a beautiful girl seduced by a noble libertine through the agency of a pretended marriage; the second, the temptations and dangers of a Roman Catholic semipriest. The first is rather a delicate subject to deal with, but Miss Jewsbury has shown herself equal to the occasion, and while she fills the reader with loathing towards the seducer, and anger at a state of society which afforded facilities for atrocities like those detailed, she contrives to enlist sympathy for the seduced. The second incident, which has reference to Roman Catholic dogmas and discipline, will hardly be understood in its full force by Protestant readers. When they find a couple of handsome, healthy, young, and loving persons lawfully wedded, suddenly severed, *e mensâ et thoro*, because certain elderly people at Rome had decreed that such cohabitation was "mortal sin," to be punished by bodily torture and death—when they read of the mental horror and disquietude of a sensible married man, who thinks he has committed "sin" in having violated the laws of his Church in this respect—they will only feel wonder that any rational being on the face of the earth could be found to believe in the force or sanctity of trumpery forms of discipline in direct contravention of the Scriptural command to "increase and multiply," and only contempt for the mental blindness and weakness that are unable either

to pierce through the veil of human imposture or to stand up boldly against poor human tyranny. Fortunately the fair sex of England know very little of monkery or the requirements of the Romish creed beyond what they collect from description or from a passing peep into the interior of some well-frequented Roman Catholic chapel, and sure we are, if they can bring themselves to credit the marital disabilities which hedge round priest and prior, in conformity with Roman Catholic discipline, they will bless their lucky stars that they can never be placed in the same disagreeable predicament as was the heroine Marguerite by her marriage with Paul the Monk. We have said enough of this novel to render it unnecessary that we should go into further detail of plot or characters. We prefer to close our remarks by sending the reader to the work itself.

WHO'S WHO IN 1859.

Who's Who in 1859. Edited by C. H. Oakes, M.A. Baily, Brothers.

THIS little concentrated essence of Court Calendar, Peerage, Baronetage, Army List, Navy List, and Law List, is certainly, to our profession at least, one of the handiest of handy books. One of its peculiar features which, if not of absolute value or importance to the public, shows the industry of the compiler, is the column of ages attached to the list of Peers, Peers' heirs, Baronets, Knights, and Members of the Commons' House. To give a fair idea of its contents, we should have to copy a very long table, which would be inconvenient; but we may say, in a few words, that something about nearly everybody in every profession, who is anybody at all, may be found out in its pages. The last of these comprise the obituary, from which we gather that the past year has removed one hundred and seventy from the roll of notabilities. To conclude, *Who's Who* has become, partly from habit, partly from its real usefulness, an annual necessary to journalists, and to use a phrase more common with advertisers than reviewers, we can almost fancy that no library or boudoir-table can be complete without it.

The Literary and Educational Year Book for 1859. Kent and Co.—Here are more than three hundred octavo pages of useful information for half a crown. It is indeed a most extraordinary collection of matters. The leading tables relate to all books published from the middle of November, 1857, to the middle of November, 1858, and also a list of new editions and works reduced in price. American and foreign works are also recorded, and the articles contained in the Quarterly serials. Then we have lists of lecturers paid and gratuitous; of newspapers, native and foreign; of periodicals weekly, monthly, quarterly; of societies, clubs, reading-rooms, universities, colleges, schools, institutions, and almost of every point of social interest. The utility of the work is immense.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Tales from Blackwood. No. XI.
Diary and Correspondence of John Evelyn, F.R.S. By William Bray, Esq., F.A.S. A New Edition in 4 vols. Vols. I. and II. H. G. Bohn.
The Formation and Progress of the Tiers Etat, or Third Estate, of France. By Augustin Thierry. 2 vols. in 1. H. G. Bohn.
Animal Physiology. By W. B. Carpenter, M.D. New Edition. H. G. Bohn.
Western Central Africa. By R. Jamieson. Edinburg Wilson.
The Origin of Christian Tenets: The Jews of Alexandria. John Chapman.
Tait's Edinburgh Magazine. No. CCCII. Vol. XXVI. Edinburg: Sutherland and Knox.
History of France from the Earliest Times to 1848. By the Rev. James White. W. Blackwood and Sons.
Thoughts on Parliamentary Reform. By John Stuart Mill. J. W. Parker.
Routledge's Shakespeare. Edited by H. Staunton. Part XXXIV. February. Routledge and Co.
Extremes; or, Men of the Day. A Comedy in Three Acts. By Edmund Falconer, M.D.A.C. John Mitchell.
The Student's Hume: a History of England. By David Hume. John Murray.
Failure of the Forbes Mackenzie Act. By James Stirling. Glasgow: James Macdohose.
The Bombay Almanack for 1859. Alger and Street.
Stanford's New Map of Parliamentary Divisions and Boroughs of England and Wales. Edward Stanford.
Facts and Fallacies Relating to the Main Drainage Scheme of the Metropolitan Board of Works. E. Stanford.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Friday Evening, February 11th.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

THERE was no business of public interest transacted during the sitting this evening, which lasted only for a very short time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MR. SAMUELSON took the oaths and his seat for Banbury.

INDIAN LOAN.

LORD STANLEY gave notice that on Monday next he should move to bring in a bill to raise money in England for the service of the Government in India.

In reply to a question whether it was proposed to carry out the post-office regulation for the post-office authorities to open all unpaid letters,

Sir J. NORTHGOTE said that this would be carried out, as it was for the public convenience such a regulation should exist. One reason for this proceeding was the number of Valentines on the 14th of February. The number was about 800,000, and some were not of the pleasantest character. (Laughter.)

NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

In answer to Mr. TITE, Lord J. MANNERS said it was intended to build an Indian-office uniform with the new Foreign-office, on the vacant site in Downing-street; but that the expense of the former would be borne by the revenue of India, subject to the sanction of Parliament.—After some remarks from Sir B. HALL, Mr. HOPE, Mr. CONINGHAM, principally in reference to the particular style of architecture for the new offices, General THOMPSON thought it would be best to stop expenditure in this direction until they had ascertained the amount of expense they would have to bear from India as well as from a probable European war.—Viscount PALMERSTON deprecated the Gothic, whether English, Lombard, or Italian style of architecture.—Mr. BENTINCK concurred in the views expressed by General Thompson.—The subject then dropped.

THE INDIAN MUTINY.

MR. V. SMITH asked whether it was intended to bestow any reward or mark of honour upon those native princes or their ministers who had proved faithful to us during the Indian mutiny. He said he considered that we ought to reward those natives who had been thus faithful, or who had in any way assisted us in our Indian troubles, just the same as we rewarded our own soldiers and officers. He was quite satisfied that public opinion would back up the Ministers in any step they might choose to take for the purpose of rewarding or marking their sense of the services of native princes or persons in power in India.

LORD STANLEY admitted that no subject could be of greater importance than the one brought under the notice of the Indian Government. The subject of rewards to our native allies had already attracted the attention of Government, but the subject was of so much importance that no general rule had yet been laid down. Government, however, had already addressed two despatches to the Governor-General of India on the subject, recommending rewards and distinctions to be conferred on worthy native allies, and some rewards had already been conferred. He was as fully impressed, and so were the Government of India, as the right hon. gentleman himself, of the value of the services of these native allies, and the expediency of giving them fitting rewards.

LANDED PROPERTY TITLES.

THE SOLICITOR-GENERAL asked for leave to bring in a bill to simplify and cheapen the process of transferring landed property, and of ascertaining whether the title was good or not. After some discussion leave was given. The other orders of the day were disposed of, and the House adjourned.

INDIA.

Letters and papers of the Calcutta mail of January 9th have arrived; the intelligence is generally scanty. The Punjab is erected into a Presidency; it is enacted that the Punjab, the tracts commonly called the "Trans-Sutlej States," the Cis-Sutlej States, and the "Delhi Territory," shall form the jurisdiction of the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab. The new Presidency contains a population, including both subjects and dependents, of nearly 22,000,000, and will shortly be garrisoned by an army of 17,000 Europeans and 45,000 Sikhs.

A Calcutta letter says:—"No measure can increase the influence of Sir John Lawrence, who is, on great questions, an independent ruler. But the new status will add greatly to the dignity, and therefore to the independence, of his successor, who has been at length definitively selected in the person of Mr. Montgomery, the Chief Commissioner of Oude."

The Governor-General is coming down to Calcutta, and the 15th Jan. is named as the date of his lordship's departure from Allahabad.

Another order decrees the disarming of the whole of Upper India.

CHINA.

The following has been received under date Hong Kong, Dec. 30:—

"We have no political intelligence of any interest. Of the Yang tee expedition nothing has been heard which can be relied on, but the Chinese in Canton state that the fleet had reached Hankow, and created great alarm among the inhabitants, who were doubtful as to the object of the visit. His Excellency Baron Gros is here at present."

"From Cochinchina there is no news. Canton remains quiet, and our European troops are very healthy."

Sir John Bowring left Manila on the 20th ult. in H.M.S. Magicienne, bound to Borneo, thence to the Southern Philippines, and back to Manila, where, from about the middle of next month, his Excellency, it is said, will remain until his health is fully restored, or the expected recall reaches him.

FRANCE.

The *Moniteur* of this morning publishes the monthly return of the Bank of France, which shows the following results, as compared with the previous return:—Increased—Bills discounted, not yet due, 23,500,000 fr. Decreased—Cash in hand, 1,000,000 fr.; notes in circulation, 29,000,000 fr.; advances, 16,500,000 fr.; treasury balance, 6,000,000 fr.

The *Times* correspondent says:—"From the manner in which M. de Morny's speech in the Legislative Body was received by all the Deputies, without exception, the unanimous and enthusiastic applause, and cries for peace, and the feeling of the country so unmistakably manifested, there can, I believe, be no longer a doubt in the mind of any one of the dislike which the very thought of war inspires."

"The fact that the Emperor did not show at the Tuileries ball on Tuesday," says the correspondent of the *Express*, "has given rise to a rumour that he was furious at the Count de Morny's speech, which he considered as in opposition to the spirit of his own. It is asserted that the Empress went to his room to beg him to make his appearance, but that all her pleading was in vain."

CRYSTAL PALACE.

Arrangements for Week ending Saturday, February 19th. Monday, open at 10. Tuesday to Friday, open at 10. Admission, One Shilling; Children, under twelve, Sixpence. Saturday, open at 10. Eleventh Saturday Concert, at 2.30. Admission Half-a-Crown; Children, One Shilling. Sunday, open at 1.30, to shareholders gratuitously by tickets. Illustrated Lectures and Band performances daily. The Crystal Palace Art Union Works on view in the Sheffield Court.

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA,

COVENT GARDEN.

(Under the management of Miss Louisa Pyne and Mr. W. Harrison.)
Total abolition of Boxkeepers' fees and charge for booking places.
First production of the ROSE OF CASTILLE at the Royal English Opera.
Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, Balfe's popular Opera, the ROSE OF CASTILLE. Messrs. Weiss, G. Honey, St. Albyn, and W. Harrison; Miss S. Pyne, Morrell, and Louisa Pyne. Conductor, Mr. Alfred Mellon.
On Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, SATANELLA, and the Pantomime LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD.
Doors open at Half-past Six. Commence at Seven.
Private Boxes, 1s. to 3s. Stalls, 7s.; Dress Circle, 5s.; Amphitheatre Stalls, 3s. and 2s. Pit, 2s. 6d.; Amphitheatre, 1s.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.

(Lessee, Mr. E. T. Smith.)

Reduced prices as usual.—Box-office open from 10 till 6. Triumphant career of the great Pantomime of the season, with Beverley's unmatched and brilliant aquatic scenery, which is nightly attracting and delighting overflowing audiences.—Last nights of the celebrated eminent artists, Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams.

On Monday, and three following evenings, the comic drama of OUE GAL. To be followed by BARNEY THE BARON. In which pieces Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams will appear.
On Friday, for the Benefit of Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams, the comic drama of IN AND OUT OF PLACE. After which, BARNEY THE BARON.

To conclude every evening with, on a scale of unusual magnitude and magnificence, the new grand pictorial Pantomime entitled ROBIN HOOD; OR, HARLEQUIN FRIAR TUCK AND THE MERREY MEN OF SHERWOOD FOREST. Harlequin, Signor Milano and St. Maine; Pantaloon, Messrs. G. Tauner and Delevanti; Clown, Harry Boleno and Delevanti; Columbine, Madame Boleno and Miss F. Brown; Harlequina, Miss Julia Lamb; Juvenile Harlequin, Clown, and Pantaloon, Master S. Laurie and Masters Delevanti; Columbine, Miss F. Laurie; Principal Danseuses, Mesdames Terro and Magray.

Stage Manager, Mr. Robert Roxby.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM.

3, Titchborne-street, opposite the Haymarket. OPEN DAILY (for Gentlemen only). LECTURES at 3, 4, and 5 o'clock on Important and Interesting Topics in connexion with ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY, and PATHOLOGY (wide Programme). Admission, 1s.—Dr. Kahn's Nine Lectures on the Philosophy of Marriage, &c., sent post free, direct from the Author, on the receipt of 12 stamps.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

(Farewell Season of Mr. Charles Kean as Manager.)

Monday, HAMLET.
Tuesday, THE MERCHANT OF VENICE.
Wednesday, LOUIS XI.
Thursday, MACBETH.
Friday, A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM.
Saturday, THE CORSIAN BROTHERS; and the PAN-TOMIME every evening.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.

(Manager, Mr. Edmund Falconer.)

Last week of the present engagement of Madame Celeste. On Monday, 100th Night of EXTREMES.
On Tuesday, last night of A SISTER'S SACRIFICE.
On Wednesday, for the Benefit of Madame Celeste, will be produced a New Drama, by John Oxenford, Esq., entitled THE LAST HOPE. Characters by Madame Celeste and the principal members of the Company. After which (on this night only), the CHILD OF THE WRECK. Madame Celeste and Mrs. Keeley.
To conclude every evening with Grand Ballet and some from SIEGE OF TROY.
On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, THE LAST HOPE, Ballet, and a Farce.
Prices—Private Boxes, 2l. 2s., 1l. 11s. 6d., 1l. 1s.; Dress Circle, 4s.; Upper Circle, 3s.; Pit, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.; Stalls, 6d. Doors open at Half-past Six. To commence at Seven. Box-office open from Eleven till Five daily.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.

(Under the Management of Mr. Buckstone.)

Revival of the Comedy of AN UNEQUAL MATCH.—The Pantomime every evening.
Monday, February 14, and during the Week, to commence, precisely at Seven, with the Comedy of AN UNEQUAL MATCH, in which Miss Amy Sedgwick will sustain her character of Hester.
After which, the greatly successful Pantomime of UN-DINE; OR, HARLEQUIN AND THE SPIRIT OF THE WATERS. The magnificent scenery by Mr. Frederick Penton.
Box-office open daily from 10 till 5.
Stage Manager, Mr. Chippendale.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

(Lessee—Messrs. F. Robson and W. S. Emden.)

Monday, and during the week, will be performed the new Drama, entitled THE PORTER'S KNOT. Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, G. Cooke, W. Gordon, H. Wigan, G. Violin, H. Cooper, J. H. White, and Franks; Mesdames Leigh Murray and Hughes.
To conclude with the New Extravaganza founded on Lord Byron's Poem of MAZEPPA. Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, G. Cooke, H. Wigan, F. Charles, H. Cooper, and L. Ball; Mesdames Wyndham, Hughes, Marston, Cotrell, Bromley, and W. S. Emden.
Commence at Half-past Seven.

THEATRE ROYAL, SADLER'S WELLS.

(Under the Management of Mr. Phelps.)

Positively the last Three Nights of the Pantomime.
Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, JULIUS CÆSAR. Julius Cæsar, Mr. Robinson; Brutus, Mr. Phelps; Cassius, Mr. H. Marston; Casca, Mr. J. W. Ray; Decius, Mr. T. C. Harris; Trebonius, Mr. C. Seyton; Pindarus, Mr. Mesgron; Porcia, Miss Atkinson; Calphurnia, Miss C. Parker.
To conclude with HARLEQUIN AND OLD ISAK WILTON; OR, TOM MOORE OF FLEET-STREET. THE SILVER TROUT, AND THE SEVEN SISTERS OF TOTTENHAM.
Thursday, and Friday, TWELFTH NIGHT—Malvolio. Mr. Phelps—and STILL WATERS RUN DEEP.
On Saturday, a play, in which Mr. Phelps will perform. Doors open at Half-past Six. Performance to commence at Seven.
Box-office open from 11 till 3, under the direction of Mr. Austin.

MR. AND MRS. HOWARD PAUL.

Every evening (Saturday excepted) at the ST. JAMES'S HALL (Entrance in Piccadilly), in their Comic and Musical Drawing-room "Patchwork," unquestionably the most varied and brilliant entertainment in London. Twelve Songs and Impromptus. Mrs. Howard Paul continues her marvellous reproduction of Mr. Sims Reeves, which the press entitle "a living photograph." Morning Representations on Tuesdays and Saturdays at 3. Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. * * Friday, Feb. 18, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul's Complimentary Benefit. Tickets at the Hall (Piccadilly entrance), and at Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.

ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION,

14, REGENT-STREET.

Every Evening at Eight.—Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at Three.—BREWSTER'S magnificent moving PANORAMA of the MAMMOTH CAVE of KENTUCKY, THE FALLS OF NIAGARA, and other noted American scenery. Stalls, 3s.; Unreserved seats, 2s. and 1s. Children, half price to stalls and centre seats. Box-office open, where reserved seats may be secured, from Twelve till Four daily.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

PATRON—H.R.H. THE PRINCE CONSORT.

Entirely New and Historical Lecture, illustrating the Beauties of Gay's "BEGGAR'S OPERA." The Vocal Gems will be sung by Miss Roden, Mr. Thorpe Peed, and Mr. Lennox Horne. Every Evening, except Wednesday, at Eight; Wednesday, at Three o'clock.
Important Novelty: the Italian Salamander, Signor BUONO CORE, Walking in the Midst of Flames.
Dissolving Views of DON QUIXOTE.
Lectures on Chemistry, Natural Philosophy, Moule's Photogenic Light, Music, &c. &c.
Madrigals, &c., by the St. George's Choir.
Managing Director—R. I. LONGBOTTOM, Esq.

JOHN B. GOUGH

Will deliver an Oration in Exeter Hall, on Monday, Feb. 14th. Doors open at Seven o'clock. Chair taken at Eight o'clock. Tickets for Platform or Central Seats, 1s.; Body of the Hall, 6d. To be had at 337, Strand.

On SATURDAY NEXT will be presented to the readers of "THE LEADER,"

AN ANALYSIS OF THE POSITION OF THE JOINT-STOCK BANKS OF LONDON

ON 30TH JUNE, AND 31st DECEMBER,
1858,

Together with a Comparison of their Progress and
Respective Amounts of Profits, Increase of
Capital, &c.,

Compiled and arranged expressly for this Paper from
the best authorities.

WITH

ORIGINAL REMARKS

ON THE

RISE, PROGRESS, & TENDENCY OF THIS SYSTEM OF BANKING.

The
Leader.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1859.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—DR. ARNOLD.

NEW COMPLICATIONS.

WHILE diplomacy is out of breath, trying to arrange a presentable basis for a congress respecting the affairs of Italy, new complications are likely to arise out of the unexpected event which has just taken place in the Danubian Principalities. As may be recollected, the concluding act of the last Conference of the Great Powers was the rejection of the unanimous prayer of the Roumans for legislative and executive union. France and Russia had in the first instance favoured the demand, and encouraged popular agitation in the two provinces in support of it. Austria and Turkey, true to the instincts of darkness and repression, denounced it as revolutionary. The Porte protested against it as an acknowledgment of a separate Christian nationality; and Austria, dreading the contiguity of a new constitutional state, desired to keep the Principalities divided, and thereby debilitated. Lords Clarendon and Cowley unhappily assented to the views of the Vienna Cabinet; and while the electoral system was cut down to the most conservative limits, and the people were thereby excluded from all direct share in the new scheme of government, Wallachia and Moldavia were respectively enjoined to elect each its own Hospodar. Every species of intrigue and bribery was set at work to secure the election of the functionary in question. The emissaries of Austria, Russia, and the Porte have been busily engaged for some time past in plotting the return of their respected favourites at Jassy and at Bucharest. The Moldavian election came off first, when, contrary to the anticipations of all the intermeddlers from without, a brave and honest man, beloved by his country, and confessedly destitute alike of the arts and the means of counterplotting the foreign intriguers, was chosen by an overwhelming majority Viceroy of the lesser State. Hardly had the Cabinets of St. Petersburg and Vienna recovered from their astonishment when the still more startling intelligence reached them that Colonel Courza had been triumphantly nominated Viceroy of Wallachia also.

Neither at Paris nor in London was the event so much as dreamed of. In the former capital the satisfaction with which it has been received in quarters not far removed from the centre of authority is undisguised. What Lord Malmesbury may think of it we know not; but it comes as a perfect godsend to Louis Napoleon, seeking, as he does, cause of controversy, if not of quarrel, with Austria. We should not, indeed, be surprised to hear of his

hastening to recognise as a *fait accompli* the election of M. Courza. It is the realisation of the views professed by the French Government on the Danubian question from the outset; and fully justifies, it must be owned, the superior sagacity displayed by its chief in this as in other matters. Napoleon III. was over-persuaded at the Congress of Paris to waive his own opinion as to what would be best for the Danubian communities, partly by assurances confidently made that the alleged sentiment in favour of union was but superficial, and the result of demagogic artifices. The natural tendencies of the two Principalities were, it was said, different, not identical. Give them but the opportunity of naming their own rulers, and it would be seen how wide apart their real feelings lay. A common viceroy ought not to be forced upon them, for if he were, one or other would be dissatisfied, and no end of troubles would ensue. Well, they have had the opportunity, and how have they used it? Despite of all the machinations of their enemies they have chosen the best and ablest man they could find in either province to be the executive chief of both. A graver or a juster reproof has seldom been administered to the overweening insolence and presumption of the Great Powers, as they are called, for their reckless disregard of popular wishes and local wants in dealing with minor states. With few and casual exceptions the dealings of these haughty arbiters of national fate, have been characterised by incredible blindness and folly. They took Italy in hand in 1815, and they arranged it so ill that it has never ceased to be a chronic source of scandal and discord, and now at last bids fair to prove a magazine of retributive danger to those especially that took most part and sought most profit in its political mutilation. They took the Netherlands in hand, and made one kingdom of them, declaring that the formation of such a power was absolutely indispensable to Europe's safety; but in the course of a few years their handiwork broke in pieces, and then with solemn airs, and interminable protocolling and what not, they declared that the severance of Holland and Belgium was a *sine quâ non* of European peace. They took the Greeks in hand after they had shaken off the Turkish yoke, and by their mischievous interference and insatiable love of crown-mongering, they all but destroyed the good effects of the war of liberation: the Greeks found for themselves a country; the diplomatists of Europe found for them an Otho. And so it has well-nigh been with the Roumans. Instead of allowing them, when the Russian war was over, to decide for themselves what manner of government they would have, the Great Powers set about drilling and dictating, until the friends of the unfortunate Principalities were almost inclined to give up their cause as hopeless. The people of Wallachia and Moldavia have nobly vindicated their inherent right to think and act for themselves; and if Louis Napoleon wishes sincerely to begin a new and liberal system of foreign policy, he will lose no time in acknowledging M. Courza as the elect of four millions of people.

The Porte will of course get into a passion, and Austria of course will protest. But if France and Sardinia, not to speak of Russia, recognise the validity of the election, the thing is done. In the present state of the relations between France and Austria, the latter dare not so much as threaten to send a regiment of Jagers across the Wallachian frontier.

ADMINISTRATIVE PATRONAGE.

THE manner in which various appointments at home and abroad have been of late filled up, excites very different feelings in different classes of the community. Among the public at large, long accustomed to see not only all the prime pieces of patronage carefully put aside to satisfy the hunger of the oligarchy, but the very scraps and bones appropriated daily for the same greedy purpose, it is something new and almost unintelligible to witness the mode of dispensation recently adopted in certain high quarters. Instead of following in the old track, the heads of several important departments appear to be bent upon resuscitating the almost obsolete idea of making choice of men by their personal talent and worth, and paying no regard whatever to the consideration of who were their grandmothers. Not only are damaged Marquises and dissolute dishonourables at a discount, but their questionable belongings and connexions seem to have been warned off the public premises, while respectable

incompetency and well-bred dulness begin to believe in the quiet intimation that they "need not apply."

Some months ago Lord Harris intimated his intention of resigning the governorship of Madras. It is one of the best things in the gift of the Minister for India. Had Sir Charles Wood or Mr. Vernon Smith been at the head of the Threadneedle-street board we know by experience what would have been done with it. It would first have been offered to all the elder sons of good family, one after another, whose fathers were spendthrifts, or who had made away with their own fortune themselves. If none of these had a fancy for it, the younger branches would be gladdened with hopes of the prize; and to some scamp or sycophant of this revisionary class it would inevitably devolve, unless some one of less obvious, but more importunate claims on a colleague or influential supporter were preferred. What must have been the indignant emotions of all such varnished impostors when they learnt that Sir Charles Farquhar, a hard-working man of mere ability and experience, and not even a member of the political party now in power, had been singled out for the governorship of Madras? Then the chief justiceship of Bombay fell vacant. It was offered to Mr. Grove, Mr. K. Macnulty, and other men of leading mark in the profession; but declined. No end of influence was set to work to obtain the coveted post for this or the other hanger-on of great lords and fine ladies. But all in vain. The first place on the judicial bench at Bombay has been most suitably and disinterestedly filled up by promotion of Sir Matthew Sausse, who has for some years filled the office of Puisne Judge in the court; and the latter post has been conferred on Mr. Arnould of the Home Circuit, a man of high character and standing both as a man of letters and a lawyer. It is almost superfluous to add that both these gentlemen are of Liberal politics, and that neither of them possess any private or family connexion with any member of the present Government.

Nor are there wanting proofs of a like disposition to prefer merit rather than family or party ties in other departments. The important office vacated by Sir Charles Trevelyan has been most judiciously filled up at the Treasury by Mr. George Hamilton, for many years member for Dublin University, a man of talent, temper, business habits, and long acquaintance with public life, and one whose high integrity even the bitterness of party had never questioned. Among minor appointments we are glad to have an opportunity of noticing with commendation that of Mr. Lucas, a gentleman well known by his contributions to the current literature of the day, to the office of Stamp Distributor at Derby. What a contrast to the manner in which a similar office at Manchester was filled up some eighteen months ago! If Mr. Disraeli perseveres in the course which he and the wiser portion of his associates in the Cabinet seem to have entered on, they need not fear the corrupt cavils and malignant sneers of coteries and clubs. They may make for themselves friends among the outsiders, irrespective of the worn-out distinctions of aristocratic party, who have the ability and the will to sustain them in their righteous course once their confidence shall have been thoroughly established.

The nomination not long since of the Rev. Harvey Goodwin to the deanery of Ely is an earnest of better things to come in the disposal of Church patronage. With Mr. Goodwin's distinctive peculiarities of theological opinion we do not profess to meddle; but on all hands he was confessedly the most popular preacher at Cambridge, and one of the most useful and indefatigable parish priests in the diocese. But the appointment, perhaps, which upon the whole has met with the most unanimous approval from the public, is that of Sir Henry Storks to be Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands. Though deservedly an especial favourite in what is called society, the gallant officer is wholly unconnected with any of the potentialities of the pretentious world. He owes his rank and the estimation in which he is held as a soldier and as a civil administrator entirely to the force of his own energetic nature and well-balanced tone of mind. During the Russian war he won golden opinions from all whom he came into contact with, whether British or foreign; and it was very much owing to his admirable arrangements, and to the imperturbable equanimity with which he enforced their observance, that the prevention of great difficulties

and dangers at Scutari and elsewhere was secured. The vicoroyalty of Ionia has long been treated by successive Governments as a perquisite of party power, and has been made use of unhesitatingly as a means of providing for needy, troublesome, and effete political dependants. It is now conferred upon a man in the vigour of life, unshackled by factious ties, thoroughly cognisant of the region he is going to and the races he has to govern, and who, in short, possesses what Mr. Carlyle terms that not very common but rather indispensable appendage—a head. The post is an eminently difficult one, and for that reason Sir Bulwer Lytton was wise in choosing such a man as Sir Henry Storks to fill it.

THE CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE—HOW TO IMPROVE IT.

THE quarterly returns of the Registrar-General inform us that the deaths in 1858 in England and Wales were much above the average, and the marriages, to the end of September, were much below the average. In 1858 the natural increase of the population in this part of the empire was 498 daily; in 1857 it was 665. In the four quarters ended September 30th, the number of marriages in 1858 was 154,457, and in 1857, 161,507. These facts indicate a great retardation in the progress of population; and if, as the Registrar-General says, "one great nuisance perpetually increases with population," it cannot be denied that with it knowledge, skill, division of labour, conveniences and luxuries also increase. Population is only another name for society. It embraces all that is new and all that is good, as well as all that is evil. It is impossible, therefore, to have a more interesting subject brought under notice than the progress of population. As the *Leader* necessarily swears by no master, and thinks all kinds of idolatry, including worship of officials, a source of mischief, and as it cannot agree with some of the deductions of the Registrar-General, it means to examine them, and state the reasons for not accepting as infallible, like some of its contemporaries, the conclusions of this officer on this all-important subject.

The facts adverted to are unimpeachable; but the Registrar-General says, on examining them, "It is evident that the excessive mortality of the year 1858 may be traced partly to the pressure in the early part of the year on the poor in the manufacturing districts; partly to the extreme cold of November; partly to the defective supplies of pure water; and partly to the prevalence of the epidemic of diphtheria." Then, carried away by official zeal, he adds:—"At the rates of comparatively healthy districts, the deaths in the year should not have exceeded 349,398; the actual deaths amounted to 450,018, and the excess of 100,620 deaths is due chiefly to the fatal neglect of the sanitary arrangements which are required in every district, and are indispensable in densely-peopled cities." The public interest is deeply concerned in ascertaining the causes of the increased mortality and decreased marriages. Are they, as the Registrar-General asserts, "chiefly the neglect of sanitary arrangements?" or are they chiefly—not partly, in a small degree—but chiefly due to the pressure on the poor, which, great in the early part of the year, is at all times severely felt? As we agree with the Registrar-General, we shall back his recommendation for a new stringent law to impose a heavy fine on every occupier who retains "English guano" near a dwelling-place; as we differ from him, we shall endeavour to relieve the great multitude from the pressure which, always weighing on them, can never be increased without causing their destruction.

By sanitary arrangements we understand regulations suggested by medical men, carried into execution by officers of health and enforced by penalties, as contradistinguished from poverty and destitution, and the pressure, not of cold or heat—for to these all are equally subjected—but of taxation, &c., which falls exclusively—by what circumlocutory process we stop not to inquire—on the poor. Sanitary arrangements have now been carried into effect for several years, and "never before," says the Registrar-General, "were so many deaths registered in any autumn quarter." Every town in the kingdom has been annoyed by the doctors, and the result is an unprecedented mortality. "The excess of deaths in West Derby" (Liverpool), says the medical officer, "cannot be ascribed to a want of good sanitary regulations." In London, the very home of the Board of Health, the excess of deaths in the

last quarter of 1858, 2305 above the deaths in 1857 (nearly 15 per cent.), and 3443 (nearly 24 per cent.) above the deaths in 1856, in the same period, or a death rate in the last quarter of 2.402, compared to a death rate in 1857 of 2.265, and, in 1856, of 1.995, was certainly not due to any neglect of sanitary regulations, which have been diligently and incessantly enforced. "The excess, too, of mortality was in the six cold months," and the neglect of sanitary arrangements is usually most injurious in the summer. Severe cold puts an end to the deleterious effects of "middens, cesspools, and English guano." In summer, the Thames and all its tributary sewers and gutters were most complained of, but then the mortality was not in excess. The early and severe cold of November, though fatal to persons poorly fed, thinly clothed, and huddled together in the streets—our houseless, homeless poor, checked exhalations from filth, and from the "shameful poisonous nuisances we still leave in or near dwelling-houses." Again, the deficiency of the supply of water, felt as much if not more in country places than in towns, was, in most cases, the consequence of the "smallest rainfall in the year 1858 since 1840." A deficiency of rain, of food, of clothing, of fuel, of house accommodation are all provocative of disease and premature death, and unless sanitary arrangements means providing all these in abundance, it is obvious, on the Registrar-General's own showing, that the increased mortality in 1858 cannot with justice be ascribed chiefly to a "fatal neglect of sanitary arrangements."

There was, however, a decrease in marriage as well as an increase of deaths; both are adverse to social welfare, and the former cannot by any possibility be referred to neglect of sanitary arrangements. If it be said that the increase of mortality removes marriageable persons, the answer is that the great increase of mortality was in the last three months of the year, and all the decrease in marriages occurred before the end of September. The increased mortality, therefore, could not be the cause of decreased marriage. One cause, however, very slightly noticed by the Registrar-General—"the pressure in the early part of the year on the poor"—will suffice to explain both much more satisfactorily than the neglect of sanitary arrangements. We will illustrate this by a reference to former periods, and let not the reader pass over the illustrations as dry and tedious, and leading to no practical end; for as he forms correct opinions on this subject, so will he be an advocate or an opponent of a vast system of bureaucratic meddling legislation.

The "annual rate per cent. of marriages, births, and deaths," shows that the year 1846 is the first subsequent to 1841 when the death rate 2.307 was above the mean rate 2.238 of the ten years ended with 1851. Now we all know that in 1846 the potato-rot began, and in December of that year the price of wheat rose from 55s. 6d. per quarter in January to 60s. 3d. In June, 1847, it rose to 92s. 10d. The consequence was that the death rate rose in 1847 to 2.472, and in 1848 to 2.513. Following this increase of mortality, the marriage rate fell from .861 in 1846 to .793 in 1847, .798 in 1848, and .809 in 1849. Here, then, we have a plain and distinct proof that "pressure on the poor" in 1846 and in 1847, when the commercial convulsion occurred, was sufficient to cause both increased mortality and decreased marriage. In 1848 the average price of wheat fell to 44s. 3d., in 1850 to 40s. 3d., and it continued below 50s. till 1853. The consequence was that in 1850 the death rate fell to 2.077, and the marriage rate again rose to .860, to reach in 1853 .894. This relative decrease of mortality and increase of marriage continued till after the rise in the price of wheat in 1853. This, then, is a second but converse example of the rates of marriage and death being greatly influenced by an abundance or scarcity of the means of subsistence. Through all the interval sanitary arrangements were continually improved and enforced, and they had no corresponding effect.

What has happened now? For three years we have had a high price of food, but we have had also a most flourishing trade. The people have been able to buy the dear food, the rate of mortality has been comparatively low, and the marriage rate comparatively high. In 1857, however, this flourishing trade was interrupted. A commercial convulsion ensued. The adjustment of the employers' or capitalists' accounts in England and the United States, &c., was the suspension for a consi-

derable period of much profitable industry. The multitude, previously drained and enfeebled by a comparatively high price of food, were pauperised to a considerable extent. The price of food was low in 1858, but multitudes had no means of buying it. In the third week of January the increase of pauperism in Lancashire was 50.75 per cent., and in Yorkshire, 21.21 per cent. In Sheffield, at Lady-day last, the poor-rates were almost doubled. The means and the hopes of employers were reduced, and with the great pressure on the poor, mortality increased and marriage decreased to a very remarkable extent in 1858. How any attention to the most refined sanitary arrangements could have improved, or in the smallest degree have influenced these circumstances, we cannot conceive; and, till the Registrar-General explains, he must be content, we think, to lie under the imputation of having been hurried by his zeal for his craft into giving a very imperfect and incorrect explanation of the cause of the deteriorated condition of society in 1858. To the nation these different views are of undoubted importance. As it coincides with the Registrar-General it will look for future safety to more and improved sanitary regulations; as it coincides with the *Leader*, it will be aware that only by lessening the pressure imposed on the poor by the supernumerary mass can it hope permanently to lessen the death rate and continually increase the marriage rate, or permanently promote the abundance and the happiness of human life.

"THE ORGAN OF THE MANDARINS."

NEWSPAPERS have a double character. They represent their writers; they also represent their readers, when they have any, which is not a matter of equal certainty. In their first and personal aspect, we hold that they should be exempt from comment, at any rate, at the hands of their literary contemporaries. We of the press all live in glass houses, and are therefore eminently disqualified for the amusement of stone-throwing. In their second and public character, we consider newspapers to be a fair subject of legitimate discussion.

At the present moment the hopes and fears, the likes and dislikes, the convictions and the prejudices—in fact, the whole mental condition of the different classes of the community—are matters of more than common interest. The operation performed by Medea upon her husband's sire is about to be repeated; the body politic is to be boiled down in the cauldron of Reform; the prayer of the dissenting Dorcas is to be fulfilled; the old woman is to be turned into a new man. So far so good. No doubt when all is over—when the ancient Adam is driven out, and the process of regeneration is complete—everything will turn out to be for the best; but still, pending the commencement of operations, every class amongst us exhibits a not unnatural anxiety to assert its peculiar claims to an exemption from pain and a prominent position in the regenerated structure.

It has been the fashion of late years to advocate the superior claims of the intellectual class. "Pity the sorrows of an educated man," has been the cry of the hour. We need hardly say that we have no prejudice against education. Before, however, we admit the proposition, that those who have received the benefits of classical instruction ought, *ipso facto*, to have an exclusive or even a predominant influence on the conduct of public affairs, we are disposed to inquire what especial qualifications for the task of government they have given proof of.

Now, of all the organs of the educated classes there is none so exclusively or so completely a representative as the *Saturday Review*. It represents the very *crème de la crème* of English education—the upper ten thousand of our university world. This well-conducted periodical claims—and, we believe, claims with justice—to represent the opinions of the highly-respectable and educated public for whom it is written. It is, therefore, in no spirit of hostility, but as a matter of curious investigation, that we have endeavoured to discover what those opinions may be.

If report errs not, the *Saturday Review* is a sort of posthumous bastard of the old *Morning Chronicle*. When that venerable periodical retired from public notice, in common with the *Peculiar* party, it was supposed that the whole concern was defunct, without heir or offspring. After a time, however, it was discovered that some of the survivors of the shipwreck had

escaped in a little bark, and, to the joy of the faithful, it was announced that a scion of the old stock—a sort of literary Jehoida—had been rescued to maintain the creed of the chosen people. We all remember the classical perorations with which the advent of the infant prodigy was proclaimed. It was to be reared in common rooms, nursed by Masters of Arts, suckled by Doctors of Divinity. As we think upon it, a sort of University aroma floats around us. Graduates alone were to be its contributors; the very compositors were to be attired in academical costume; the editor—we tremble to think, and cannot even surmise, what heights of University distinction he must have attained to, and therefore refrain from an attempt at description. Everything about it was to be classical. “Meherclé!” and “Proh Jupiter!” were to be the only forms of adjuration allowed even under the bitterest provocation of short copy and illegible contributions. Our regrets become too poignant for us to proceed. Why, O cruel Fate, were we not born some years later into this wicked world? Then, at least, as competitors at the “middle-class examinations,” we might have had the honour of a University certificate. Like the pauper who, “faute de mieux,” rubbed his bread against the bottle which had held the cheese, we might have had the shadow, if not the substance; and now—now we shall go down to the grave unlettered, uncertificated, and unclassified—not even a University A.A.

Recollections of our “Commercial and Proprietary” school days crowd upon us. Tag ends of the Eton grammar buzz about our ears. We fancy we have heard somewhere that

— Ingenus didicisse fideliter artes
Emoluit mores nec sinit esse feros.

We conclude at once that a paper so produced, so conducted, and so supported, must be distinguished by the enlightenment of its views, the generous ardour of its aspirations, its elevation above vulgar prejudices, and its strict regard for truth and justice. We take up the *Saturday Review*, our dream vanishes, and we find that even Masters of Arts are but common men.

The one desire of the *Saturday Reviewers*, the Pharisees of periodical literature, has been to establish the fact that they are not as other men are. On every question of public interest which has arisen during their brief existence, they have taken the line opposed to that of the country at large. The public has neither conscience nor understanding. What-ever has the suffrages of the multitude, is necessarily wrong. “Vox populi, vox diaboli.” According to such a creed, the study of politics becomes an easy matter. The national feeling evoked by the Crimean war, the outcry of healthful indignation which proclaimed and redressed the wrongs and sufferings of the British army, were the peculiar objects of their derision and attack. Throughout that great struggle the attempted rehabilitation of the Aberdeen Ministry appeared to be the only subject in which their interest was lively. We were acquainted with an old member of Parliament who used to boast that he had never voted in a majority while he held his seat. This legislator should be the patron saint of the *Saturday Reviewers*. On the topics of military and naval reform, on the attempt to throw open the Government services to the general public, on the Chinese war, and upon the Indian mutiny, on university and church reform, their opinion has been at variance with that of the nation. It must be some consolation to them for having unwillingly coincided with public feeling about the Conspiracy Bill to reflect that they have attacked the Palmerston and Derby administrations with equal ferocity.

A degree of personal virulence, which has grown out of date elsewhere, has been, throughout, the characteristic of the organ of the enlightened elect. In politics, Lord Palmerston and Mr. Disraeli—in church matters, the evangelical party—in literature, the *Times* and Mr. Dickens—have been the favoured objects of their most inveterate sarcasms. Of late times, however, Mr. Bright has been their peculiar bugbear, their “*pièce de résistance*” at which they are always coming and cutting again. Fortunately for the member for Birmingham, he is strong enough to survive philippics in the style of an emasculated Junius. The writers in the *Saturday Review* have an undoubted right to their own opinions. If, being of the press, and living by the press, they choose on every occasion to deny their connexion with the press, that is their concern and not ours. We only notice these opinions because

we are afraid they are but too truly representative of the public for whom they are promulgated. This want of sympathy with popular feeling—this dislike to every measure of reform—this ignorance of the spirit of the age, and this personal bitterness against all who labour in the great cause of popular progress, are only too characteristic of common-rooms and colleges.

The truth is, that college dons, and clerical divines, and the whole class of University celebrities, are very good people in their own way: but according to the vulgar saying—they are not everybody, and, unfortunately, they believe that wisdom is confined to them. We should be very sorry indeed to see a system of government in which they were debarred from the proper influence they exert at present. We should be almost as sorry to see that influence of theirs disproportionately developed. There is a story told of a French peasant, who was employed by his parish priest to make a crucifix for the village market-place. One day they were both passing in company before the cross, when, to the surprise of the priest, the carpenter omitted to remove his cap. “How can it be, my son,” said the priest, “that you, of all men, omit to do honour to the symbol of our faith?” “Ah,” said the peasant, with a shrug of his shoulders, “you see, father, I knew it when it was only a pear-tree.” This, in substance, is our reply, when classical attainments and university education are put forward as claims to superior knowledge and peculiar enlightenment. Alas! we have known colleges and universities too closely and too well. “Nous aussi nous l'avons connu poirier.”

LAND REFORM.—That part of the Queen's speech which refers to some measures for securing to the landowner an indefeasible right to his land would have been more noticed, probably, than it has been had the people been duly represented in Parliament. Then the representatives of the landless, the homeless, and the graveless—those who, living or dead, are denied a fair share of the common property—would at once have perceived that the time was come for them to make good the just claims of their constituents. The landlords ask the representatives of the people for favour and protection. On what conditions? What will they give for what they require? In this mercantile age let us have a good bargain, let the homeless and the landless dictate concessions, such as do away with game laws, entails, primogeniture, and make the land perfectly free. Let it be possessed by living men in complete ownership, but take from the possession all privileges whatever, and enforce not the will of dead men, nor any continuous holding after death. The representatives of the people ought to infuse the spirit of the statute of mortmain and of free trade into the new laws guaranteeing the landlords the possession of the land. The subject is worthy of being further referred to.

SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.

We have received the following communication from a reliable source, and therefore give it insertion, although we consider the question one of so complicated a nature as to render it difficult to get at the exact truth.

A number of German patriots have of late addressed petitions to the Diet of Holstein, calling upon it to protect the rights of the suffering sister province of Schleswig against the despotic encroachments of the Copenhagen Court. One of these petitions has come from Bradford (Yorkshire), bearing the signature of fifty German merchants residing there, three German professors, one a physician of that nationality, and so forth, together in all seventy-nine signatures. A similar address has been sent to Itzehoe by nineteen German merchants at Liverpool. It is reported that in London, too, a memorandum of the same kind is in course of signature among Germans. In Germany itself, the Constitutional Schleswig-Holstein party have also sent an address to the Diet. All these demonstrations have created a great impression, and were received as important signs of the reawakening feeling of national independence.

The case of the Duchies is known to be one of great hardship. They are oppressed by a foreign state which does all in its power to break asunder their time-honoured union, and to render them virtually Danish provinces. This attempt is one in opposition to law and public treaties, in contradiction with the sentiments of the population, and tyrannic in the extreme. King Frederick VII. has, however, not scrupled to employ means the most violent to carry out this measure. He has decreed that to use the mere name of “Schleswig-Holstein” is a sort of treason. Every letter bearing

that perfectly correct geographical designation is ruthlessly opened and returned to its sender. The tyranny exercised against the German tongue is equally odious. German parents in Schleswig have been fined for having employed German instructors to bring up their children in their native language! At times the Court of Copenhagen has been so ridiculously enraged against everything German, that it made the deaf and dumb asylums the vehicle of Danish propaganda! Within the last few weeks the King has suppressed all Schleswig-Holstein societies, whether of a purely literary, artistic, or even agricultural character. In his opinion, the two provinces ought to have nothing in common. Add to this that the German Duchies are filled with Danish employés, many of whom are not even sufficiently versed in the German idiom; that Danish preachers are forced upon German parishes, and that churches, therefore, often become desert, because people see no use in listening to a sermon they do as little comprehend as they would one in Russian. Remember, further, that the same galling system is introduced into the schools; that the Schleswig army is drafted away into that of Denmark, and the Holstein troops sent into banishment to the Isle of Seeland; that Danish soldiers garrison and dragoon Holstein; and that repeated attempts have been made by the King to rob the German provinces of their domains, which have a value of some 40,000,000 dols. No doubt it is easy, under such circumstances, to understand the feelings of the Schleswig-Holsteiners as well as of German patriots and Liberals at large.

The King of Denmark, in order to break all resistance of the down-trodden Duchies, has even prohibited “collective petitioning,”—thus taking from the German population the last shred of a right generally respected by the worst tyrants. Not even the members of the Schleswig Diet are exempted from this despotic prohibition. In order to make their opinions known, they have, therefore, found themselves compelled to address individually a memorandum to the King, in which they demand the re-establishment of the political independence of their province. Many of them have conferred also with the Holstein Deputies to induce them to a similar course of policy. The patriotic petitions above alluded to will contribute their part to keep the members of the Itzehoe Diet in the path of national right and justice.

We have received a letter from Bradford on the same subject, which says:—

It has created a painful astonishment among Germans here to see a correspondent of the *Leader*, who writes on the Bradford Address, display at the same time so complete a want of knowledge with regard to facts, and so bitter an enmity against what he supposes to be “our poor Yorkshiremen,” or, as he calls them also, ignorant “silly persons.” The correspondent has wished himself that his letter may “meet the eyes of these Yorkshiremen,” so that they may learn how wrong they were to meddle in foreign affairs not concerning them, and which they, as Englishmen, do not understand. Well, the reply to all this is very simple. The alleged “Yorkshiremen” only exist in imagination! The signers of the Bradford Address are all natives of Germany, who, no doubt, have some right to make their voice heard in matters concerning their fatherland. Many of them are, besides, men of position, whom the correspondent, we think, would not willingly treat cavalierly. The rest of the article against the imaginary English sympathisers with the cause of the German Duchies is also full of misstatements. The assertion, for instance, that there is a “Schleswig-Holstein Diet,” now in session at Itzehoe, in Holstein,” does not state the facts properly. There is a separate Holstein, and a separate Schleswig Diet, prevented from uniting by Danish dominion. But it is needless further to take up the errors of a paragraph which is written on an entirely wrong foundation.

We can only say, in answer, that we have generally found our correspondent correct and of liberal feelings; and having but the one intention—that of giving the truth in public matters—we readily insert the foregoing reply to his communication.

A telegraphic despatch, arrived a few days ago, informs us that the addresses to which reference is above made, have produced much impression in Holstein.

MR. COBDEN.—This gentleman, in a letter addressed to the Ballot Society, gives the reasons which will prevent his attendance at the annual dinner of that body. Mr. Cobden says that, from his retirement, he has been watching the progress of Mr. Bright's movement, and is struck with the similarity of the ordeal through which his friend has had to pass, and the ordeal he had himself to encounter in the earliest stages of the League agitation. The misstatements and misrepresentations were the same. But the triumph would come. In a few years Mr. Bright will, if able to persevere, gain the object of his wishes, and the clamour will be transformed into praise. Mr. Cobden mentions his intended visit to America, and concludes by intimating that he is likely to give his experience when he returns of the practical working of the Ballot in the United States.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday, 6½ P.M.

NAPOLEON III. ET L'ITALIE.

EVENTS have followed in such quick succession since I last wrote, that what is barely a week old is now antiquated and almost forgotten. Close on the Piedmontese marriage, which seemed to people here the consummation of a union against the peace of Europe, came the long-expected pamphlet, "Napoléon III. et l'Italie," the joint-stock production of his Majesty and of M. le Vicomte de la Guéronnière, Chancellor of State, and inspiring medium of the *Patrie*. Intended as an elaborate defence of the Bonaparte policy towards Italy, and having, besides, a twofold mission to fulfil—to convince Europe as well as France that aggressive wars would not be entered upon, and, at the same time, to satisfy Italians that a warlike demonstration would be made in their favour, it is not surprising that this last specimen of Napoleonic literature should be a failure. I mean a failure so far as regards its influence as a State document. As a mercantile speculation, it must have been eminently successful, for 25,000 copies were sold the first day, on which the net profits must have been not less than 800*l*. With regard to the substance of the pamphlet, I fear it is on an equality with previous literary productions by the same hand. Its form is a very different matter, and so far reflects credit upon one of the authors at least. But in all other respects it is held to be most unsatisfactory—in short, a grievous blunder. The constant strain on the Imperial vision which has been maintained for the last ten years has rendered the *coup d'œil* less comprehensive and less accurate than formerly. He who spends his time in striving to look beyond the deep shadows that are falling thick and fast on France, may be excused if he falls into errors and deceits; if he mistakes his solitude for homage to his power, or fancies he has but to speak to find a ready echo on all sides. It is when the light of freedom breaks through the gloom that hesitation and doubts occur, as owls are scared by sunlight.

People abroad, probably, are not able to do full justice to the difficulties and dangers of the throne here. It is based on universal suffrage, and served by the agents of an alien power to whom feelings of home and family are prohibited. A breath made it yesterday, and a breath may unmake it to-morrow. The Imperial régime no more than any other form of government, has taken or can take permanent root in the country, but it is for the present the only one possible. Still, it can only exist on condition of satisfying the requirements of the priesthood, and of appearing to possess absolute control over the physical forces of the empire. On the one hand, the Government is obliged to make concessions to the priesthood, as well as great sacrifices, to maintain the reputation of France for being the eldest daughter of the Church. On the other hand, it is compelled to pay deference to physical force, and to justify its title to be regarded as the offspring of revolution, the liberator of Europe, and the defender of oppressed nationalities. Hence the extraordinary compound of revolutionary and reactionary ideas which startle, vex, and dissatisfy the readers of the pamphlet. To conciliate the support and services of the clergy in France, the power and prestige of the Pope must not be diminished, but to prevent the Liberal party from passing into open opposition, and to remove the causes which frenzy men into assassins, the Pope's Government must be reformed. Wherefore the Governments of Italy are proposed to be federated under the presidency of the Pope; once again the wearer of the fisherman's ring is to be set above the wearers of crowns, and, in the eyes of the ignorant, be made to seem the chief sovereign of Italy. How long it would take to proceed from semblance to reality, each may judge for himself. To remove the influences which goad the Romans and populations of the Legations into desperation, and make assassination excusable in their eyes, the *status quo* in Rome must not be allowed to continue. Wherefore civil administration should be secularised, the people should be represented in the discussion and examination of laws and expenditure; local municipal councils should keep alive public spirit; the administration of justice be reformed by the introduction of the Code Napoléon; and taxes be levied on a more equitable system. But to reconcile Popery with liberal government, to give the Pope a Parliament, is felt to be an impossible anachronism. As well might one attempt to harness a cart-horse team and locomotive to a railway train. No people have a more lively sense of the ridiculous than the French—none are more impatient under it; and they feel that if "Napoléon III. et l'Italie" is taken in Europe as a faithful exponent of the character and intelligence of the French Government in the last half of the nineteenth century, they must excite the contemptuous commiseration of the world.

THE EMPEROR'S SPEECH.

Bad enough as the pamphlet is thought to be as a State document, the speech from the throne is to be more impolitic and unwise. The public required to be reassured against the chances of war. With a unanimity

I never before witnessed, all organs by which people could express their wishes declared against the folly and wickedness of plunging into hostilities "which would necessitate the sacrifice of the treasures and soldiers of France, and of which no one could foretell the end." From this unanimity the *Presse* is, of course, to be excepted. The Prince, whose wishes it represents, though past the age of illusions, would not hesitate, like another Paris, to sacrifice his native Troy for another Helen. Moreover, the military ardour which burned so fiercely at the commencement of the Crimean campaign has again revived, and Horace Vernet has been asked if he would paint Prince Napoleon at the passage of the Ticino as *pendant* to the picture of the same illustrious general on the banks of the Alma. In presence of the unequivocally expressed determination of France not to incur the hostility of all Europe, and risk life, money, and position to procure a fresh subject for Horace Vernet's magic pencil, and an additional pictorial illustration of the Prince's military virtues for the gallery in the Palais Royal, the pamphlet was a failure. The speech from the throne was looked for to compensate for the mistake and restore public confidence, which had been so rudely shaken. The speech was certainly intended to be sincerely pacific. But as the necessity of speaking to Buncomb is as great for the Emperor as for the American President, there was an additional dose of Bonapartesque tanfaronnade which, harmless as it would be at other times, is construed into evidence of offensive intentions. The hope that the apprehensions of war would be dissipated has been again disappointed. The reiteration that *l'Empire c'est la paix* failed to produce the anticipated effect because it was preceded by a clumsy deceit—a pretence to be innocent of the causes of the perturbation, which was "deplored" and called "surprising." The great card of the English alliance was played without winning a trick, for it was neutralised by the assertion that "irritating remembrances of the past" and "national prejudices" still existed in France towards you, and had to be trampled under the heel of despotic power in order that the good understanding between the two powers might not be interrupted, leaving it to be inferred that the heel had but to be uplifted—the strong personal authority of the Emperor to cease—for these remembrances and prejudices to destroy the alliance. Some people affect to see in these injudicious expressions a threat applied to England that it rests with the Emperor entirely to light up another war, and that nothing but his despotic will saves you from the eruption of French military ardour. Certes, if this be so—and I sincerely believe that hitherto the Emperor has done more than any one else to preserve amicable relations between the two countries—the alliance rests upon a very frail foundation, the life of one man—nay, on his condition of temper. Nor was it calculated to promote belief in the continuance of peace to declare that the policy of France was to be still as officious and meddling as previously. For that is what is taken to be meant by the stilted declaration that "the interest of France is everywhere where there is a just and civilising cause to be promoted." The allusions to Italy and Austria are regarded as of the least importance, although they ought to be of the first, for it is believed that they state no more than it is desired the public should know. Taken altogether, the speech is, perhaps, the most extraordinary that was ever delivered from the throne. It is the defence of the Emperor before the bar of public opinion, the laboured protest of his innocence from nourishing guilty designs against his neighbours, and the ingenious excuse for his policy. *Qui s'accuse s'accuse*.

M. DE MORNÝ'S ADDRESS TO THE LEGISLATIVE BODY.

After the Emperor, M. de Morný, *par nobile fratrum*, was called upon to try his soothing powers upon the public. This gentleman is believed to be the instrument of Russian policy in Western Europe, and to be hostile to the English alliance, from not having been allowed to take so large a share as he wished in certain Belgian speculations in which he was associated with some English capitalists. The reader will remember that it was the Count de Morný who this time last year uttered such terrible menaces against England for "nourishing assassins in her bosom," and led the way for those insolent petitions to be allowed to rush upon "your den and tear revolutionists from your culpable protection." Since then M. de Morný has changed his tone. He now pipes the dulcet notes of peace. Rumour says that he is not indisposed to be associated with English capitalists in constructing the Algerian railways. It may be that the remembrance of huge profits derived from the St. Aubin iron-works and Orleans Railway has revived; and as the old war-horse will to the last obey the sound of the trumpet, so will M. de Morný follow his instincts of "stag." Last Tuesday, the day after the speech from the throne, M. de Morný met the assembly of uniformed pensioners, which is by courtesy called the Legislative Body. As neither the Imperial pamphlet nor the Imperial speech had produced the effect desired, the President of the Corps Législatif was instructed to crow peacefully on his own heap, or, if he would roar, to roar in no fiercer notes than the turtle-dove. In justice to the well-disciplined body over which the Count presided, though he spoke to them with cruel irony of "the efficacious and real influence

the constitution reserved for them," it should be stated, that they were earnest in applause of every peaceful sentiment, and allowed their wishes to carry them beyond the traditions and instruction of the *claque*. When asked to meditate upon the Emperor's speech and prove their gratitude for the Emperor's care of the honour of France (how strangely some people prize what they neither possess nor understand!), they gave the due measure of applause. But when the Count de Morný spoke of the Emperor's assertion that "peace was not to be broken, save in the defence of national interests," thereby rudely dispelling the delusion that France would interfere to establish Italian independence—that "peace was the chief wealth of modern society"—that "people's blood was not to be lightly spilled, and war was the last resort of offended honour"—that "most difficulties may be overcome by peaceful arbitration"—that "public opinion was omnipotent, to which Governments were obliged to defer," the obstreperous and enthusiastic applause seemed to fill his Countship with astonishment and perplexity. Evidently in the copy of the speech from which he read, the "signs of applause" were not printed. When he paused for signs of approbation, as printed, there were none, and as he read hastily, he was interrupted, much to his dismay.

The general conclusion is that there will be no war. It is currently reported that Austria has offered to withdraw her troops from the Legations, concurrently with the disappearance of French soldiers from Rome, thus removing the only cause for dispute, and effectually checkmating the turbulent policy of the Emperor in Italy.

Your readers will not fail to remark in the published accounts of the opening of the sessions, that whereas in democratical and aristocratical England, where the people are "enslaved," the sovereign goes to meet the representatives of the nation; in imperially democratic France, where every man has a vote, the representatives of the nation are summoned to dance attendance in the palace of the sovereign.

GERMANY.

(From our own Correspondent.)

February 9th, 1859.

THERE is nothing of interest to report in the proceedings of the Prussian Parliament. It would seem as if all were afraid of disturbing the delightful unanimity which the Prince Regent represented as being the glory of Prussia in the eyes of an enviously admiring world. The Prince is liberal, his Ministers are liberal, and the delegates, for the far greater number, also liberal. What more do we want? By maintaining our present masterly inactivity we form part of a grand phenomenon. We have our Regent's word for it. Besides, the budget which has been laid before us proves that the finances are in a splendid condition, and there is no need of increased taxation—at least for the present. The political change in Prussia is beginning to produce a movement among the neighbouring states, as shown by the attempt made by the Hamburgers to reform their mediæval constitution, as your readers were informed by your Special Correspondent. This large city, which has been, and still is, in constant intercourse with the most enlightened nations, and which holds within itself all the elements of freedom and truly enlightened self-government, is ruled by customs that belong entirely to the middle ages. That now, for the first time since 1848, a public spirited movement should be commenced, is evidence of the crushing influence of the absolutist party that was carried into power by the reactionary panic of the last ten years. This reform agitation in the old Hanse town is the most interesting subject at present, but I refrain from dilating upon it, as your Special Correspondent may perhaps go fully into it. I have, however, some observations to make upon another question connected with Hamburg. My attention has been directed to a leading article which appeared in the *Daily News* of February 1st, in which some grave and hardly credible errors occur. From the style of the article I should say it had been originally written in the German language, and with the object of raising Hamburg at the expense of a neighbour. If, however, it is the production of an Englishman, I can only say he has perhaps "die Glocke klingen gehört, und weiss nicht wo sie hängt." English papers often, and justly, ridicule the errors, most frequently malicious, of foreigners with regard to English affairs, and a mistake, although committed by a leading English journal, as in this instance, not ill-meant, will be greedily seized upon to hold up the English press to ridicule. London journals more especially, having no inconsiderable influence upon the minds of thinking men in Germany, ought to be particularly careful when they pretend to state facts, for if found false in facts, they will be considered false in their ideas. In the article alluded to, the *Daily News* says:—"The position of Hamburg is full of danger, for she alone of the Hanse towns has been able to resist the pressure of the rest of Germany, employed to induce her to abandon those great principles of free trade which, while they are part and parcel of her history and her fame, are also the object of the unmitigated hostility of the States of the Zollverein." In another paragraph it says:—"Of the character of that policy and the weight of that pressure (alluding to the efforts of the Zollverein States against the free trade of the Hanse towns), we

have a significant example in the treatment which the Hanse town Bremen has lately received from the Zollverein. On this river (Weser) the tolls of the States through which it runs—Hanover, Hesse-Cassel, and Prussia—were just as oppressive and ruinous to its navigation as those on the Elbe. Those tolls have, however, been suspended for ten years by a convention concluded between the riverain States on the 26th of January, 1856; but for that suspension Bremen has had to pay dearly. Entirely surrounded by the Zollverein, Bremen, as a consideration for the suspension of the Weser tolls, has been compelled to submit to the restrictive commercial policy of that hurtful confederacy, has been obliged to allow of the establishment of its custom-houses within its time-honoured free walls, to become an incorporated part of the territory of the German Customs Union, and to acknowledge the right of its douaniers to repress commerce within its small circle. As yet, this pressure of Bremen into the Zollverein does not include Bremer Haven, the port of Bremen for large shipping, which lies some sixty miles further down the estuary of the Weser."

The Haven lies some sixty miles below Bremen, but the former can hardly be said to lie in the estuary of the Weser; Bremen itself most decidedly does not, for the banks of the river where it runs through the city are almost within a stone's throw of each other.

"That entrepôt (Bremer Haven) still retains the freedom of commerce which for centuries was the pride of Bremen itself. But the Convention of 1856, whereby the tolls on the Upper Weser were suspended, is a temporary arrangement only. That Convention remains hanging over the prospects of Bremer Haven, like a cloud ready to burst in 1866, when the price to be demanded for its renewal may, and probably will, be the complete absorption of Bremen—Bremer Haven and all—into the Zollverein. Thus 'bad begins, and worse remains behind.'"

The value of the foregoing extracts may be summed up in the expressive monosyllable, Fudge! If the concluding quotation had been placed at the head of the article, there would have been then one bit of pure truth in it; as it stands, it is a jumble of fictions and statistical facts. In the first place, Hamburg is not the only town that has resisted the pressure of the Zollverein, for the Hanse town Bremen is at this moment as free as ever she was with regard to trade; and it is my private opinion that the Senate of Bremen, headed by a man whose patriotism and unwearied industry and disinterestedness in the service of his little commonwealth deserve a wider fame, the late Chief Burgomaster Smidt, the founder of the port of Bremer Haven, did more to resist whatever pressure there was than the town of Hamburg. There is not one word of truth in the assertion that Bremen has become an incorporated part of the Zollverein, or that douaniers interfere in any manner with the trade of Bremen itself. Bremen is in every respect a free and independent territory. The Bremen authorities have, indeed, permitted a few outlying hamlets, of no importance whatever, to be incorporated with the Zollverein lands, just to round off, as it were, the borders, and to facilitate the repression of smuggling. The authorities have also allowed the officers of the Zollverein to pursue smugglers within the Bremen territory, and this they have tolerated not from fear or pressure, but simply in the interest of their own legitimate commerce, which depends upon fair and extensive trading, not upon petty smuggling.

As to the establishment of custom-houses within the Bremen territory, I would call the attention of the writer in the *Daily News* to Articles 6 and 7 of the Convention referred to, and which appears to have been so ill understood. Article 6 is to this effect: to give to the trade between Bremen and the territories of the Zollverein such facilities as may be conveniently allowed without danger to the interests of the Zollverein, it is agreed that a custom-house shall be built in the city of Bremen where goods intended for the Zollverein lands may be valued and the duty levied upon them so as to obviate the necessity of further inspection or detention. Article 7 is to the effect that, to facilitate the sale of goods from the Zollverein lands to other countries—namely, across the sea—a depot shall be built, and placed under the control of the chief custom-house mentioned in Article 6. In this depot, manufactures of the Zollverein, or foreign goods which have paid duty to the Zollverein, shall be warehoused, and may there be re-packed, assorted, or divided into separate parcels according to the wish and convenience of the owners, and may thereupon be sent again into the Zollverein lands without any obstacles whatever. The management of the depot will devolve upon the free city of Bremen, which undertakes to erect and maintain the necessary buildings at its own charge.

The warehouses agreed upon in the above Convention are now completed, and these conveniences, as they really and simply are, have undoubtedly led the writer of the article in the *Daily News* into the belief that they were custom-houses in which goods intended for Bremen are taxed. It must be evident that it is a great convenience to have the goods examined, and the duty levied at the outset, rather than on the borders—the goods are saved from probable damage, and the railway passengers from an annoying detention. The Zollverein depot mentioned in Article 7 is used as a store for Zollverein

goods which, if unsaleable, may be returned without being subject to duty. It is needless to observe further that it is also a great advantage for the German manufacturers to have a Government depot for their wares in the seaport of Bremen, and that it is just as advantageous for Bremen to have a great variety and choice of articles that her buyers may suit all their wants upon one and the same spot. The trade of Bremen is no more affected by the Zollverein than is that of Hamburg. The same applies to Bremer Haven and all other places belonging to the Republic of Bremen. For this state of things, to Bremen alone the merit is due. She owes as little to the Verein as Hamburg.

I have nothing to report of the Bavarian Parliament. The discussions are either carried on in secret, or, as I believe is the case, they are afraid to discuss, the members thinking, possibly, that better a Parliament without discussions than discussions without a Parliament. The King having refused to open the Chambers with a speech from the throne, the opportunity to express the wishes and requirements of the country in an address was not afforded them. Some of the most resolute Liberals proposed presenting an address notwithstanding. The majority, however, decided against doing so. This resolution on the part of the majority is considered by some as evidence of an inclination to submit to the will of the King.

Shall we have peace or shall we have war? has been the great question of the week. It would be of little use or interest to your readers to give the various opinions vented by the press as to the probabilities and consequences, but this is certain, and worthy of note, although possibly of no great importance in itself, that the press and public of Germany are unanimously in favour of Austria against France and Italy. If the Germans were never of one mind before, I think they may be truly considered so upon this point; and I doubt very much whether Louis Napoleon would succeed in dividing them. There is little chance of a second Rhine Bund. If the Emperor had any admirers or sympathisers in Germany before, he has lost them within the last few weeks.

THE "PARLIAMENTARY" AND THE "BOARD'S" MAIN DRAINAGE.

£1,000,000 AGAINST £3,000,000.

To the Editor of the Leader.

SIR,—The last report of the Registrar-General concludes with very important warnings, which forcibly confirm that which was urged upon the Government in letters published in 1846, viz:—

One of the earliest commands given to man was, that refuse should be carried a-field, and should be put underground. The fertility which would be caused thereby would naturally attract attention, and induce that preservation and application to agricultural purposes which has been continued among the Chinese, and which Liebig and others have taught us to adopt in Europe. There is, no doubt, a beneficent arrangement of Providence (agreeing with the ancient command alluded to), and therefore the withholding from the land its due may be naturally expected to act most injuriously, both on the land, and also on the water and air, which improperly receive that which should fertilise the soil. The inhabitants of towns now so largely exceed the rural population, that the extravagant waste which exists on the part of the former must bring want as its natural consequence. English farmers depending upon foreign manure will not be able to compete with rivals, whose fertilising substances are economised by every neighbouring town.

Professor Liebig has again called attention to the urgent necessity which exists for England to use, as manure, the residues produced by its large cities.

The plan which was specially designed, perfected, and prosecuted, with the view of removing and utilising the metropolitan sewage, was spoken of, by the Government itself, as a comprehensive plan for the drainage of the metropolis, which was under the attention of Government, the accomplishment depending on the retention of the present sewage of the metropolis. This plan, consisting of two intercepting sewers, was embodied in the Sewers Acts of 1848. Lord Seymour stated to the House of Commons that this "plan, which proposed that there should be two tunnels—one on each side of the Thames—to receive the drainage of the metropolis, had been fully approved by the committee" to which it had been referred; the Government subsequently informed Parliament that the works which were urgently required were "the two great outfall drains, one on the north and the other on the south side of the river;" and, in 1855, the Government informed a deputation that the works to be formed were "two main intercepting sewers, one on each side of the river Thames."

It can be satisfactorily proved that this Parliamentary plan will effectually relieve the Houses of Parliament, the Thames, and the metropolis; that it can be executed at about one million sterling; that it is, in every respect, superior to the Board's three-million scheme, and that the Board has, on twelve different occasions evaded and refused an inquiry into this less expensive and preferable plan.

Yours, &c., J. J. MOOREWOOD.

Fine Arts.

THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

ALTHOUGH this year's exhibition is not particularly rich in good works, it contains an amply sufficient number of them to repay the visitor's attention; and the first pictures of the season, like its earliest flowers, have a special charm and attraction. Many are very good, and for the rest we shall do better in seeking for their beauties than their defects. Sweeping condemnations are always unjust, as well as injurious.

Two things may be noticed in praise of the present exhibition. One is the very small number of portraits, the other, that many of the paintings are behind glass. There is good authority for the opinion that all valuable pictures ought to be thus protected from dirt, damp, and foul air, especially in cities.

To begin with No. 1:—"Sardis," a high-class work, by Mr. Harry Johnson, has some rich colouring in distance and good effect of light, with a certain hardness and crude green in the foreground. The same may be said of No. 478, by the same painter, an Alpine scene in earlier evening. No. 2, "The Sand-pit Road, by Redgrave, R.A., and No. 3, "Venetian Fishing Craft," by E. W. Cooke, A.R.A., are both small works, the only contributions of their respective painters, and neither of them remarkable for excellence. No. 18, "Saltarello Romano," by R. Buckner, has merit, but the colouring is dingy. Mr. Buckner's other work, a portrait, is quite a contrast in this respect. No. 19, by T. Sidney Cooper, A.R.A., is little short of reprehensible. "L'Allegro," by W. E. Frost, A.R.A., a repetition of a work formerly exhibited at the Royal Academy, is in the usual style of the painter. D. Roberts, R.A., exhibits two pictures (26 and 173), both rather inferior to his ordinary productions. No. 37, "Inver Canoech, Inverness-shire," by J. Holland, is a noticeable landscape, which takes in a great breadth of moorland, and evinces considerable power and originality. We much admire this artist's little bit of "Rotterdam" (262), but his Venetian picture is too sketchy. No. 36 is a nice portrait by H. Weigall. "Thistles" (38), by T. Worsey, shows some good and careful painting, though a little tameness and want of variety in colour. E. A. Goodall's "Interior of a Cabaret" (40) is well painted; the colouring is too much that of an old picture, but to some tastes this may be a recommendation. In Mr. G. Pettitt's "Lake Lugano" (43), the gilding sunlight is good, and the magnificent view of the Helvellyn range from under Place Fell, by the same artist, is truthful and imposing. The dark, cold, lake and the stony foreground are most effectively painted. "A Peep at Nature," North Wales (484), by C. Pettitt, a younger member of this artistic clan, is sharp, clear, and cold as the chips of stone it so truthfully renders. No. 44 is "An English Valley," by H. Jutsum: very beautiful, but much injured by contrast with the colours of surrounding pictures; 281 and 526, by this artist, are also worthy of attention and praise. T. S. Robins has some good fishing-boats (42). In No. 50, "Dos Amigos," R. Ansdell, the woman's yellow kerchief against the blue and blue-green of the sky is cold, harsh, and unpleasant, and the opposite corner looks very tame by contrast. The composition is not more agreeable than the colouring; the horse's head and the mule's ears are surely over long. Mr. Ansdell's other work, "Isle Major" (347), makes a better picture, but he must guard against stiff and hard drawing; the gigantic cattle seem to lack the softness and flexibility of life. No. 54, "Hush," by A. Provia, is very pretty indeed. Mr. J. Gilbert's "Falstaff" and his "half-dozen of sufficient men" (66), is a disappointing and decidedly unpleasant picture. Patches of red, blue, and yellow in immediate juxtaposition, and a profusion of muddy olive, are by no means refined colouring; and the figures are not characters but caricatures. The fat, undignified knight himself is perhaps the best of them; a big, burly brute, of mature age, is identified as Bulcalf by a calf-skin doublet! It may be doubted whether a melon and a pomegranate are probable accessories. We believe Mr. Gilbert will benefit neither the public taste nor his own reputation by exhibiting such carelessly-conceived and coarsely-coloured works as this. He has done good service by his clever and dashing woodcut drawings, especially to the lower classes, in whom the cuts in cheap publications have greatly tended

to awaken a love of art. In such works, unimportant and hastily executed, much may be overlooked; but we cannot be as lenient to an oil-painting on the walls of an exhibition. Mr. Gilbert could do much better, and therefore he deserves no praise for this performance. Mr. Frank Dillon's "Granite Sanctuary, Karnac" (73), is an effective and agreeable picture; we would say as much for his other work (489) but that we are getting weary of the Pyramids with their "forty centuries," and that everlasting Sphinx without a nose. Lead us "to fresh fields and pastures new." Mr. H. Moore's "Evening, squally weather, coast of North Devon" (79), is a good bold sketch, solidly painted; and No. 428—a difficult subject very successfully treated—is a delightful picture to study. No. 81, "Evening," by J. Danby, has a fine golden sunset; and No. 556, by the same, is a pretty little sketch. "A scene near Bettws y Goed," by J. Syer (83), is one of the best landscapes in the rooms, and certainly ought not to have been put down in a corner; the treatment is broad, but definite, and the effect of diffused daylight very truthful. In J. B. Burgess's "Gossip at a Spanish Taberna" (93), the expression of the figures is particularly good, and very national, and the texture nice, but the effect suffers from the colour of the background and the gold frame. His 160 is well painted, but less telling. No. 101, "The Common," H. Le Jeune, is one of the gems of the exhibition. It is merely a pretty little girl, boots and stockings off, leaning against the bank of a pond with her feet in the water, but the simple beauty of the composition, and quiet harmony of the colours, render it truly charming; the length of the child's heel is a slight blemish. "The Park" (97) is not to be compared with its companion. No. 110, Mr. G. Sant's wintry, or rather prevernal study in Clyne Wood, is very pretty and truthful. Mr. G. Stanfield's works, with some resemblance to his father's in general effect, are more literal in treatment; he has three pictures (138, 238, and 558), all solid and natural-looking. No. 149, "The Flaw in the Case," by J. Morgan, and 150 "The Bankrupt," by J. Collinson, have a good deal of character. No. 157, "Expectancy," by J. Sant, is very lovely, but painted with a freedom nearly approaching to coarseness. Mr. Lidderdale's "Rain on the Fair-day" (161), is a very pleasant picture, good in colour and surface; the half-tearful disappointment in the girl's face is excellent. No. 163, "Evening in a Cornfield," is clever and effective, but we fear Mr. Linnell is getting careless. "First and Last Efforts," by L. Haghe (171), a sick painter pausing in his work to watch his little son's attempt to copy an outline, is a noble little picture, good throughout. Mr. Frank Wyburd's "Home of the Mountaineer" (179) is so very sweet and poetical, that we cannot now attempt to find a fault in it, but we would fain, had we space, write a criticism upon it. "Zorahaya," by the same painter (413), is a beautiful little thing delicately painted. E. T. Coleman's "Mont Blanc" (189) looks natural, and so do W. H. Hopkins's "Colts" (192). In the middle room are two sea pieces—197, by J. J. Wilson, and 224, by E. Hayes, A.R.H.A.—very similar in tone and treatment. No. 207, by F. T. Sims, is well painted, but what is there to admire in an ungainly pheasant *en. per coll.* on a very desert of deal board? No. 218, "See-Saw," by C. Rossiter, is nicely finished. "The Golden Age" (246), by G. Lance, may be fine, but unless the observer be supposed buried up to his neck, how could the jar on the ground hide the distance? Another great fruit piece, by W. Duffield (288), though very different in style, comes so near it in excellence that it is hard to say which is the better; there is also an admirably grouped and painted fruit piece by Miss E. Stannard (129), in the first room. No. 266, by E. U. Eddis, is pretty and expressive, but too coarsely painted, and would be much improved by a different colour in the background. No. 272 is a pretty pale sketch by E. C. Williams; 273, by L. J. Wood, is good of its kind. E. J. Niemann's picture (307), "The Swale at Richmond," is very richly coloured, bold and striking. The same painter's "Richmond" (151) conveys a magnificent impression of distance. "Omnibus Life in London" (318), by W. Maw-Egley, is an amusing little subject; it should have been painted in an omnibus to ensure perfect accuracy in the lights. No. 331, by T. Danby, has good evening sunshine; 187, too, a stony streamlet through trees, is very pretty. The man wheeling a barrow full of children, called "A Precious Burden" (325),

by Vanseben, is full of motion. Mr. J. Peel has two nice landscapes, 237 and 353. There is some good solid and bright painting in Mr. Wingfield's "Vandyck and Dobson" (354). The table and accessories have been studied with much care. "A Roadside" (359), by Vicat Cole, is a very pretty little landscape, and extremely well painted. H. Dawson's "Autumnal Evening" (360) may be noticed for a good Turneresque effect.

We shall take the South Room pictures in our next, with such works of merit or pretence in the first two rooms as may appear to us to have escaped our present notice.

Artists have heretofore found it no easy matter to catch the likeness of Mr. Charles Dickens. We are glad, however, to hear that Mr. Frith, of the Royal Academy, is at present engaged upon a small but most successful portrait of that gentleman. The painter holds his commission direct from a literary character of eminence, but there is a rumoured probability of its ultimately finding its way to the National Portrait Gallery.

We often hear comparisons drawn between the large prices paid to modern painters and those received by the masters of former days; but in the "Extracts from Sir Joshua Reynolds's Journal," referred to in a previous number, we find that he, at least, cannot be adduced as an underpaid artist. In 1736 he received 500*l.* from that liberal print-seller, Alderman Boydell, for "a picture of a scene in *Macbeth*, not yet begun;" and in 1789 he had 525*l.* from him for "The Death of Cardinal Beaufort." These were engraved for the Shakspeare Gallery, published by Boydell's son in 1805. The former, Plate XXXIX. of the series, depicts the vision of the Kings in *Macbeth*, Act IV., Scene 1; and, if Mr. Thew's engraving gives a fair idea of the picture, we fancy it would fetch little enough in Wardour-street to-day. "The Death of Beaufort" is from the second part of *King Henry VI.*, Act III., Scene 3. It represents the King, Salisbury, and Warwick, standing round the bed of the Cardinal, who convulsively clutches the bed-clothes in his agony. The President gave as little as he well could for the worthy alderman's guineas, for he avoided showing the face of the full-length king by cunningly raising his arm to heaven. Salisbury is a half-length, the lower extremity being cut off by the bed. Warwick displays a head and shoulders only. Such palpable "dodging" would now-a-days hardly be carried off by even the colour of a Reynolds. He had not, however, a soul above lucre, for in his account-book it is stated that he received 31*l.* 10*s.* of Sir William Chambers "for painting the ceiling of the academy." The Lord Granby, who served with the British contingent in Germany under Ferdinand of Brunswick, and whose visage is so common a public-house sign, was a favourite, too, among his peers. Between 1773 and 1778 Sir Joshua painted six portraits of him for persons of quality. He received 250*l.* in full payment for one of them, from Marshal Broglie, and 65*l.* as first payments on account of the others.

The *Photographic Almanack*, published by W. Lay, King William-street, West, contains much that photographers always want at their fingers' ends, whether abroad or at home. We gather from it, which we were not prepared for, the extent to which photographic societies are organised throughout the country. Their meetings appear to be arranged for the twelvemonth in advance, for they are here set down for us as systematically as fairs in a farmer's almanack. "The annals of the art" show in a few words the progress made last year, the last improved processes, apparatus, &c. The tables of solubility, specific gravities, chemical equivalents, comparative French and English weights and measures, distances at which to adjust focussing screens, and many other things, all, we fancy, oftener wanted than forthcoming, in the field, are here clearly printed, and in a most handy form.

We are indebted to the *Art Journal* for drawing our attention as follows to the Transparent Enamel Photographs from the establishment of Squire and Co., and invented by Mr. Glover, who has taken out a patent for them. The substance on which the pictures are taken, says our contemporary, "is glass, covered with a pure white enamel, the surface of which is slightly granulated by acid. One of the great peculiarities of these enamels is that they are positives either by transmitted or reflected light. As transparencies for a window or the stereoscope they are very beautiful: they are susceptible of taking transparent colours which increase their richness, and will bear washing like a piece of

porcelain. A portrait of a lady, among other specimens submitted to us, is remarkable for its delicacy and purity of tone, as well as for its life-like character, approaching most closely to a miniature on ivory. We understand that the process of manipulating these photographs is both simple and easy."

The Hogarth Club, late in course of formation, is now established, and (with the exception of Mr. Millais) numbers among its members the leading pre-Raphaelites, as well as some young architects of the same persuasion. They have a pleasing exhibition of their sketches, which etiquette forbids us to notice critically, at the club-room in Piccadilly. While we admire their society and themselves, we are bound to caution this zealous little band, to whom we wish all manner of good, against the evil which the vanity we all share in common is apt to engender if allowed to ferment unwatched in by-places. A club is all very well; but it would be a deplorable mistake in a party of clever men to dream of severing themselves from the main body of the profession of which they are but a link, even though they may not leave it as fast as they would. Their perfect segregation can but tend to intensify the defects of their school, not its good points. Let our friends, therefore, beware of those pernicious Cicerones, exclusiveness and cliquism, which, if cherished, will only betray.

On Monday last the Chancellor of the Exchequer made an announcement in the House of Commons for which those who read our last week's remarks upon fine art matters will not have been unprepared. The whole of the building in Trafalgar-square will be speedily devoted entirely to the National Gallery. We were glad to note the cheers with which members whose convenience can be little affected one way or other evinced their sympathy with the people and the middle classes in this matter. The Academy are to build a gallery for their own use and with their own money, on public land within the precincts of Burlington House; and while this is in progress the public collections are to be placed in a temporary receptacle, under the guardianship of Ministers, at Kensington. To this no reasonable person can take exception. The main demand of the public is conceded, namely, that they are no longer to be vexed by committees and commissions, at whose hands the Chancellor was obliged to confess no proper settlement of the question could be hoped for.

We learn from a contemporary that yesterday week a lecture on "Venice and its Architecture to the End of the Gothic Period" was delivered at the Russell Institution, by Mr. John T. Christopher, A.R.I.B.A. After noticing the origin of this city, her rise and progress, her peculiar position and beauty, the romantic interest attached to her, and her connexion with our noblest poetry, the lecturer proceeded to speak of painting, sculpture, music, and literature, which flourished under her fostering care. He directed attention to the history of Venice, as written in her architecture. Of no city could it be more truly said that architecture was "history in stone;" all her great buildings bear the names or are associated with the glory or infamy of her best or worst children; and he divided the present portion of this "history" into the Basilica, Byzantine, and Gothic periods, extending from the seventh to the fifteenth century. He next described the Cathedral of St. Mark, with its mosaics and marbles, and its wonderful interior; the Ducal Palace, the principal palaces; the arrangements of private houses; the great Gothic churches, with their monuments and pictures; the numerous minor works of architectural beauty scattered throughout the city: the balconies (a main feature in Venetian houses), doorways, windows, screens, and walls of rich design and material. The lecture was well attended and well received; and nearly 100 photographs, coloured views, plans, and drawings, illustrating every building mentioned, were exhibited, and examined with great interest by the audience.

Sixty-six sketches and finished works in water colour by William Hunt, a portion of the collection of his late relative and friend Mr. Steedman, were sold on Wednesday at Messrs. Foster's, in Pall Mall. Among the most pleasing were a dead black-and-white rabbit, vegetables, &c., which fetched 22*g.* guineas. "A Gipsy" (single figure seated) 20 guineas; a small portrait of himself 16 guineas; a picture in oil, "Boys bathing," by the same hand, fetched but 35 shillings! An unchallenged Wilkie of 1841 produced 6*g.* guineas; a laughing gipsy girl, called "The Merry Mood," by Douglas Cowper, was smartly contended for and brought 40 guineas; and a Mulready "Landscape with boy and dog" produced 20

more than 13 guineas. For all this, the sale was well attended, and few if any of the lots went below their market value.

Mr. Arthur Ashpitel, F.S.A., a gentleman whose classical scholarship is perhaps unsurpassed in his profession, gave a lecture on Tuesday evening at the Architectural Photographic Society on the Ancient Buildings of Rome, illustrated by more than 100 photographs from the Eternal City, taken by Mr. Macpherson. The discourse branched into consideration of the temples, aqueducts, the Forum, the Cloaca Maxima. The latter appears to have been composed of three rings of masonry, some of the stones being five feet long by three feet thick. The Mausoleum of Hadrian, now the Castle of St. Angelo, and the ancient statuary were the next and concluding topics of this instructive lecture, which was listened to throughout with the attention it deserved.

Theatres and Entertainments.

LYCEUM.

On Saturday evening last Mr. Falconer's comedy, *Estrenes*; or, *Men of the Day*, was produced at the Lyceum, and to do that gentleman justice, seems to have been as well received by a full house as though it had not been performed on ninety previous occasions. The truth is that, in spite of certain defects, the comedy offers the public the luxury (not an every day one) of at least one "character" over and above the usual number of parts fitted with "characteristics." The original cast will be well remembered, and Mrs. Weston, who, as *Dame Wild-brier*, is the prop of the piece, is still included in it. The substitutions are, Miss Portman for Mrs. Mellon, in *Lucy Vernon*, Mr. G. Murray for Mr. F. Charles in *The Hon. A. Adolphus*, and Mr. Falconer is announced to play the part of *Frank Hawthorne*, the hero, alternately with Mr. Vandenhoff, for the present. That there is plenty of "run" yet in *Estrenes* we are aware, and for the fortunes of this favourite theatre we hope it will successfully stop the gap until the lessee shall have diligently crystallised and polished up the new work of his own which that poor authority, Gossip, tells us is on the stocks.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.

The Olympic management seem doomed to fail in getting up quite a successful comedieta or farce exclusive of Mr. Robson. But as that gentleman cannot perform in every piece every night, the desideratum must still be sought for, and hence the necessity of "writing to Browne." *I've Written to Browne*, which the "Browne" of the managerial difficulty has supplied on this occasion is not the best specimen of that author's work, being a slow redundant comedieta, written in specially gentish, though inoffensive, English. The hero, *Perceval Dotts* (Mr. Lewis Ball), and the heroine, *Mrs. Walsingham* (Mrs. Leigh Murray), find, after pledging their troth, that they have mistaken the nature of their sentiments. While *Dotts* goes abroad, *Mrs. Walsingham* gives her heart to a Mr. *Hetherington*, and the former, on his return, falls in love with his fiancée's sister *Laura*. Each is puzzled how to announce the change; and each believes in the other's continued affection. This protracted situation becoming intolerable to *Dotts*, he sends for his friend, *Onsay Sheridan Browne* (Mr. George Vining), a London dramatist, who can get any number of characters into and out of any extent of complications. He instantly suggests that *Dotts* shall extricate himself by pleading ruin. This does but deepen the poor *Walsingham's* sense of honour. She resolves to sacrifice herself, but is relieved by the accidental discovery of "Lines to Laura," written by the instant. An explanation ensues; the parties change corners, and *Browne*, as bold as if successful, mounted on a drawing-room chair, bestows a blessing with outspread arms. Mr. Vining and Mrs. Murray between them carried the little piece to a not unsuccessful conclusion. The splendid flowing mane (not head of hair) and Byron collar of the former was telling to begin with. His importance, conceit, and assurance, secondly, were very good. The smart things of the piece seemed all to fall to him, and he did the best he could for it. Mr. Ball did his best with *Dotts*, but that was little. There was not much to be done, it is true; but, partly from his superior power, partly because the public indulge their habit of laughing—cause or no cause—at their favourites, Mr. Robson would have made the house scream. The public in question laughed a little and gaped a good deal at this new comedieta. Some braved it out, they did not know why; some because their carriages had not come. Many went home in peace during its performance, and those who saw the last of it never thought of applauding, or of inquiring for the author.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—MONDAY EVENING CONCERTS.

At the last of these entertainments, M. Wisniawski, the Polish violinist, so well known in connexion with M. Jullien's last series of concerts, made a favourable impression in his old favourite, Viouxtemp's "Air varié," and in a trio with Mr. Benedict (pianoforte) and M. Engel (harmonium), based on one of Bach's preludes. Madame Bishop was encored in Schubert's beautiful "Ave Maria;" Miss Poole in Haydn's "Mermaid's

Song;" and Madlle. Behrens in "By the sad sea wave." Miss Kemble succeeded but moderately in Schubert's two songs, "Hark, the lark," and "Who is Sylvia." Mr. Wilbye Cooper sang the tenor solo from "The May Queen" very elegantly, and Mr. Santley gave Robinson's ballad, "Tears and Smiles," with truly artistic feeling. The programme was a long one, but we have not space to record more than the above, the more striking features of the evening's entertainment.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—THE VOCAL ASSOCIATION.

The first of the series of six "dress concerts" of the Vocal Association was given, under Mr. Benedict's direction, on Wednesday evening, at which several of the choral pieces given at the "undress concert," noticed in our paper of the 29th, were repeated. In Meyerbeer's difficult "Lord's Prayer," and Mendelssohn's "In the forest," there was marked improvement. The "Festival Overture" of Mr. Benedict, which is amply scored, and abounds with difficulties, was played triumphantly, and cordially received. The vocal soloists were Misses Stabbach and Palmer, with Messrs. Santley and Wilbye Cooper. The latter gentleman sang for Mr. Sims Reeves, unable to appear. Without stopping to notice their detached *morceaux*, we must now briefly touch upon the Society's performance, with their assistance, of Dr. Sterndale Bennett's beautiful cantata, "The May Queen." The classic overture to this work is succeeded by a pastoral chorus of rare and original beauty, "Wake with a smile, O month of May," given with all the lung-power of the Society. The plaintive aria (No. 2), "O meadow, clad in early green," which follows, was purely delivered by Mr. Wilbye Cooper, whose training would seem to have eminently fitted him for such an air. This vocalist's simple and unaffected style is as good as several points in his favour. His taste is fine, and his slightly veiled voice has an excellent quality, and can be brought out powerfully when requisite. In the next piece, "O melancholy plight," there was a decided vacillation on the part of the chorus. The No. 4 solo and chorus, "With a laugh as we go round," is a glorious operatic one, and was alike creditable to Miss Stabbach and the society. The racing time by which the *spiritoso* of the composer was interpreted was certainly unfavourable to both. Amateur choruses should not, in justice, be driven at a gallop; and this tempo must have made the successful opening of Miss Stabbach's air a matter of some difficulty. In the duo, "Can I not find thee a warrant for changing?" this lady and Mr. Cooper displayed great industry and intelligence; and in Mr. Santley's splendid bass solo, "Thy jolly hunt," the certainty and crispness of his notes were most effective. The No. 7 trio for soprano, tenor, and bass, "The Hawthorn in the glade," which opens with a fine bass air, was over-accompanied, but still enjoyable. The "Pagan music," lost by speed, again, much of the legitimate effect of the antique measure in which it is written, and which should be indicated by the composer's *andante grazioso*. In this respect it must have been tearful to the latter in spite of the general accuracy of the band as to the mere notes. The charming chorus, "Hark, their notes," although similarly defrauded of much beautiful shading, was, as it could hardly fail to be, much admired, and Miss Stabbach's *tour de force* brought the cantata to a successful conclusion. While we have pointed out one blemish running through the performance—namely, exaggerated speed, which, adopted, perhaps, to conceal defects, only makes them obvious and creates new ones, we must own to having much enjoyed it. That having much we would have more is not unnatural, and we are sure that the band and chorus of the Vocal Association are fully capable, under their present zealous guide, and with the aid of such vocalists as those above mentioned, of affording all that their friends or the public have a right to look for from a body composed mainly of amateurs. The hall was crowded with an evening dress company, whose gratification was extreme, and by whom the singers, the conductor, and Dr. Sterndale Bennett were all enthusiastically applauded.

HANDEL CHORAL SOCIETY.—FOUNDLING HOSPITAL.

On Monday evening a meeting took place at the Foundling Hospital to inaugurate a new musical society, under the name of the Handel Choral Society. The time, said the President, Mr. John Benjamin Heath, was auspicious, for it was just about a century ago that Handel had deathlessly associated the Hospital with his name, by preparing within its walls for the execution of his oratorio the *Messiah*, and by presenting it with the organ on which he then played. Rules were adopted, and it was resolved that space should be lent for the meetings by the institution; that their Chapel-master, Mr. Willing, should be musical director; and that the first practice meeting should take place on Monday next. Then will be submitted the names of the committee, and a scheme will be considered for testing the vocal competency of candidates for singing membership.

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

A new, very pleasing, and, we are glad to say, a very successful entertainment has been commenced at this popular resort. Mr. Lennox Horne, a very good lecturer and singer, has, for the benefit of the immense public, who, though they favour not stage players and opera singers, ballets, and ballet dancers, are not

averse to dramatic readings and operatic recitations, resuscitated, or revived, the good old *Beggar's Opera*. He has associated with himself Miss Roden and Mr. Thorpe Peed (of whom the latter takes the piano), and precluding with a short life of Gay and history of the opera, treats the audience to the series of charming airs it comprises. The old melodies, which seem to grow more, rather than less, in favour from their million-and-one massacres, dissections, variations, pot-pourri-ations, pasticcio-factions, and reverie-ments by native and foreign music-masters for scholastic purposes, were received with delight. "Cease your funning," and half a dozen more of them, were very perfectly sung by the artists named, and rapturously encored. Some complete, very well set as a trio for the occasion by Mr. Thorpe Peed, concluded the performance, which afforded much gratification to a numerous audience. We may congratulate the indefatigable managers upon having struck a vein which will, in our opinion, be found as remunerative as it is intrinsically rich. The works of the old composers abound with melodies which may never be heard again upon the stage, but will always please if woven into concert-room entertainments by such judicious hands as those of Mr. Horne.

CHINA.—Within the last few days a stage veteran of some mark has shuffled off the coil. Charles Parley, of the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, who was born in 1771, and died on the 28th ult., was connected with that theatre from his mere infancy until his retirement from the boards in 1834. His dramatic experience was, of course, large. He was the call-boy of the theatre when the *School for Scandal* was first produced; taught Joseph Grimaldi the pantomime business; witnessed the entrance and exit from the profession of the great Kembles, G. F. Cooke, Young, Kean, and Macready; saw gas introduced into playhouses, and the patents taken away from them. He assisted at the birth of melodrama in this country by the production of the *Tale of Mystery*; was the arch representative of *Grindoff*, of the renowned *Miller and his Men*, a drama which still reigns supreme in the miniature stage of juvenile theatricals. It were a long task to frame a list of the heroes, magicians, and diabolical characters he in his time enacted in such pieces as *The Cherry and Fair Star*, *The Magician of the Ebony Wand*, &c. &c., the glories of bygone Easters and Christmases, but it were unjust to his memory to suppress mention of his ability in connexion with the more regular drama. He was in his day a noted inventor and arranger of pantomimes and spectacles, and, somewhat contrary to the custom of his profession, was in very easy circumstances for many years previous to his death. —Mr. Webster has been so fortunate as to secure the services of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Wigan for the summer season at the Adelphi Theatre. —We would with pleasure draw attention to Madame Celeste's announcement of her approaching benefit at the Lyceum, when will be produced a new drama entitled *The Last Hope*, from the graceful pen of Mr. Oxenford, and the old Adelphi drama, *The Child of the Wreck*. —The Brussels *Indépendance* hears from Turin that the Milan police have prohibited the repetition of *Norma* at La Scala. The Signori Soncins, Clerici, Ronner, and Caroli had been severely reprimanded by the Director of Police for their conduct there. The first three were forbidden to enter any of the Milanese theatres, and the latter had been ordered to leave for Bergamo forthwith. —Mr. Sims Reeves has been forbidden to risk a public appearance for another fortnight; an engagement at Drury Lane is still at his disposal, but the state of his health would seem to forbid any hopes of his accepting the arduous work of singing in opera. —*The Invisible Prince*, by Mr. Planché, an old Haymarket favourite, was revived on Thursday at the Adelphi, and, on the same evening, *Five Diavolo* was performed at Covent Garden. —In the matter of lowering the diapason in France, to which we referred last week, the *Daily News* informs us that the Commission has decided upon a fall of a quarter of a tone. This is not enough. Levasseur, the eminent basso, avers that he can recollect the day when the pitch was a full tone lower than at present. Conductors, composers, and musical instrument makers, have, in combination, raised it as much in London, almost within our own memory, and the "concert pitch" is higher in Dublin than even here. French vocalists—those especially who are a little past their prime—will be much relieved by a reduction; but instrumental brilliancy will correspondingly suffer.

PUBLICATION OF OFFICIAL INDIAN DOCUMENTS.—We have been informed—and the information has afforded us much satisfaction—that among other beneficial practices introduced by Lord Stanley into the system of conducting business at the India-office, is one intended to secure a larger amount of publicity for the acts of the Indian Government, both at home and abroad, than has hitherto been accorded to them. Orders have, we are told, been issued to the different secretaries, directing them to select for publication every year all the most important papers in their department not of a nature to demand secrecy. We may expect, therefore, every year a collection of far more valuable Indian Blue Books than Parliament has ever extracted from an unwilling Government. —*Overland Mail*.

INDIA AND INDIAN PROGRESS.

LORD STANLEY AND INDIAN PUBLIC WORKS.

THE India House has for some time been in contention, and the Stock Exchange in anxiety, respecting the continuance of guarantees to public works in India. Although the railway guarantees have not as yet proved a burden on the Indian Exchequer, but, on the contrary, afforded it resources in a time of great emergency, yet there are some Indian financiers of the slow and safe school who, for fear the guarantees should ever prove a burden, wish to stop the authorisation of any more public works for a few years till they see whether any deficit will arise upon those already guaranteed. The slowness, the safeness, and the caution of this policy recommend it to all cautious men who are short-sighted and cannot see beyond their noses, and under their direction might be applied to the stoppage of all the clocks in the kingdom, to see at what rate the works will wear out. It is this sagacious school of statesmen who, instead of profiting by the experience of England and America, stayed the course of public improvement in India, made the railways an experiment, and have brought us to the year 1858 with three hundred miles of railway, and to the year 1859 with some five hundred miles. So far from this being a sound policy in order to make the main lines now in progress pay, the subsidiary lines must be pushed on, for India is far behind with every appliance for the conveyance of traffic. Colonel Sykes, who has erected for himself an elysium of Indian optimism, may tell us differently, but facts not embraced in his statistics are against him. All Bengal is calling out for river steamboats, the rivers of the south are un navigated, and wherever a railway station is opened the intercourse and the flow of traffic are impeded by the want of roads, though some of the best practical, that is to say Indian, civil authorities tell us that roads are superfluities in India, the country being so admirably adapted for doing without them. The railway managers, who are not likely to become practical authorities of this class, are assiduous in the formation of branch roads. As to the water communication we are within bounds in stating that in some places three months are spent in traversing less than four hundred miles of direct distance, so that many classes of goods cannot be conveyed by water, and there is neither road nor railway as a substitute.

To stop the public works of India, by granting no more guarantees for a while, is an ingenious and almost certain expedient for creating a temporary deficiency on the guarantees, of preventing the development of the resources of India, and thereby of adding to the embarrassments of the Indian Exchequer. There is, however, a very strong party in the Indian Council who are making strenuous efforts to stop the guarantees, and they are leagued with speculators out of doors, for many of the Indians are now investors in the old railway lines, and it is the natural policy of the partisans of these to seek a kind of monopoly: monopoly is a feeling dear to the old party. The old companies have enough to do to complete what they have on hand; they cannot, therefore, very well object to other companies taking up the subsidiary and branch lines, but if they can delay these for years and years till their main lines are completed, then they expect to get the reversion of them themselves. Their officials and shareholders, therefore, sedulously beset their friends in the Council with various statements having the tendency to stop the grant of further guarantees. Whenever a line with calls upon it is under par, they represent that the market will not bear any more issues, though since the market was last stopped for eternity some ten millions more have been placed, and though there is no more proof now than ever there was that the market is choked, but on the contrary Indian public works are better understood as an investment, there is a special class interested in each new work, and more and more capital is available. It is, however, an article of faith at the India House among the best authorities that the market will not bear one million more, and that it will be the last rose-leaf to spill the water in the brimming jar. All through the revolt large sums have been contributed, and now all the railway districts in India are free, except part of Oude. Now

that confidence is felt in the Imperial Government, and the administration of Lord Stanley and his colleagues, and a better knowledge is obtained of the resources of India, it is beyond question that larger sums can be obtained for India than have ever been applied. Then there are the old tales about the price of rails and the freight of materials. It is material for economy, say they, that the price shall be kept down by limiting the supply, and it is indispensable the main lines should have every facility for completing their works; hence the conclusion, Allow no new companies, which will likewise try to ship rails. We may remark incidentally, that such arguments cannot apply to irrigation companies, which do not want to send rails or locomotive engines to India and cannot want freight for such articles; nor do they apply to steamboat companies, which will send out appliances for transport. They have no true bearing on railway companies at this moment, for the freight market is particularly depressed.

The representations of such parties are listened to with eagerness at the India House, and the best intentions of Lord Stanley and the more energetic statesmen are thwarted, for it is promulgated officially by the best authorities that no more guarantees will be given for a long time to come, and hence men of standing are deterred from becoming directors or taking part in such projects as shareholders. Lord Stanley's decision in granting the guarantee to the Madras Irrigation Company was a bitter pill for the best authorities to swallow, but his sagacity has been rewarded. The measure was well received, and it takes a good place in his parliamentary programme. Still, unless Parliament intervene, the obstructive party will succeed in doing a large amount of mischief.

Colonel Sykes is outside the Council, but occupies the position of Chairman of the East India Company, which is still one of dignity, and he felt called upon to defend the administration of public works by the Indian Government. He intimated that there was no need to do anything for the promoters of cotton cultivation, an object the importance of which is admitted by Lord Stanley, and has his earnest good wishes. Colonel Sykes told the members, who listened irreverently, that three great public works are now going on in India which are alone enough to attest the energy of the Government—namely, the Bombay waterworks, the Madras pier, and the great road to Central Asia. If he had not trespassed on the presumed ignorance of the House he would hardly have dared to allude to these subjects. Bombay has been in our possession now nearly two centuries, and Colonel Sykes, by some slip, observed that it had been for a hundred years without water, which drew the attention of the House. The sufferings of the inhabitants of this important city have been very great, and the state of affairs may be judged of by the simple fact that quite recently, on the opening of the Great Indian Peninsular Railway, it was employed in the rather novel article of traffic of carrying water for the relief of the perishing inhabitants, whereby disease and death were diminished. The only other lines, we believe, where such a traffic is carried on, are in the rainless desert of Atacama, on the Arica and Tacna Railway, and on the Copiapo and Caldera Railway. Of course, if the Indian Government would have allowed it, the waterworks could have been as well carried out years ago as now, and would have been paid for over and over again, while many and many lives would have been saved. Does Colonel Sykes know, if he knows anything beyond his own presidency, that Bombay is not lighted with gas, and that the gas company has been kept in abeyance for want of encouragement by the authorities? Does he know that the military engineers will not allow Bombay to have a mercantile dock, which is so much wanted?

With regard to the Madras pier, Colonel Sykes does know that for years the merchants of Madras have been asking for a breakwater or pier, and that the Government, so far from doing anything, have resisted every application, and that it was not till the accession of Lord Stanley that the plan for a pier has been sanctioned. Perhaps Colonel Sykes will explain how it was that the pier or breakwater was not carried out during his chairmanship of the East

India Company. As the pier is not sufficient for the required protection of Madras, it will be part of the duty of the new governor, Sir Charles Trevelyan, to provide a suitable breakwater, which, although more expensive, will be more effective. The Madras pier, we may observe, is not begun.

The reference to the great Himalayan road is another unfortunate slip of the tongue. This noble enterprise is one of the undertakings of the great Governor-General, Lord Dalhousie, and which is proposed for the purpose of throwing open Tibet and Central Asia by that route to English commerce and civilisation. This work has made little progress, and was suspended under the plea of the embarrassments of the Government. Colonel Sykes may be able to tell us what he did for that road, or for the other great road and railway to Central Asia by Sikkim. A road by the latter pass is just begun, and the great Himalayan road has been resumed under Lord Stanley's directions since Sir Proby Cautley's accession to the committee of public works in the Indian Council.

Colonel Sykes, who is so fond of parading the perfections of the old Government, may likewise tell us what he has done for the steam navigation of the Nerbudda and the Cauvery. The little province of South Australia, with small means, has succeeded in throwing open the Murray to steam navigation, although it could barely afford the bounties; while the rivers of southern India are without a steamer, and we believe at this moment the Burhampooter, the Gogra, and the Goomtee, not to speak of other rivers in the north, have not a commercial steamer in them, and our notes give some evidence on this. With regard to steam navigation, except what has been done for the Indus, India has been left chiefly dependent on the home Government, even private enterprise, while Canada has fostered a direct ocean line, the Australian colonies have subsidised lines by Singapore and Panama, the Mauritius has contributed for a line of steamers, and the Cape and Natal offer a bounty for a junction with the main line at the Mauritius. It is easy to see that the small colonies have free and independent action, while the vast states of India have been left dependent on the centralising administration of four-and-twenty men of chance, of whom Colonel Sykes was one. There must be freer local action for the Indian presidencies and governments, as there is for the colonies, and fewer references home.

Lord Stanley has given sufficient assurance that Indian public works are not to be left untouched till Indian finance ceases to show a deficit, and there can be little doubt the proceedings of the Government will be conducted with prudence, guarantees not being granted as a matter of course, and lavishly, but each undertaking dealt with on its own merits according as it affects the welfare of a district, and is calculated to subserve great public interests. Look at the Oude Railway case, for instance: the "practical" authorities denounce a guarantee, and yet it is evident that the prosecution of the railway works is the chief condition for the amelioration of the country and the stability of our rule.

NOTES ON INDIAN PROGRESS.

WE regret that a very serious accident has occurred at the Kussowlee station, and in so far delayed the measures of the Government for increasing the hill cantonments of European troops in that district. The Government had built excellent barracks for five or six hundred men, and these were just ready for occupation when, on the 26th December, they caught fire. This will delay the occupation of the station by an English regiment till new barracks are built, which is a very serious privation to the troops in the plains.

The news from Mooltan is another exemplification of the difficulties to be encountered in the establishment of our troops in the hill regions. Mooltan is an elevated country, with many parts of healthy climate, but, although the 1st Bombay Fusiliers have been there for eighteen months, they are not yet properly housed, and the consequence is that, as might naturally be expected, they have suffered very much from sickness whilst they have been quartered there. It is actually proposed to station three companies at Dera Ismael Khan. Thus it will be represented that Mooltan is unhealthy, and there will

be a prejudice against it, as there was in the first instance against some of our best hill stations. When the European invalids were first sent up to Mussoorie, adequate barrack accommodation not being provided, but they being stowed together, they died, as one of their officers said, like rotten sheep, whilst the officers got into good health, having better shelter.

Since the return of Mr. Theobald to Calcutta, a most important memorial has been prepared by the Indigo Planters' Association of Bengal, in pursuance of the strong recommendations given by witnesses before Mr. Ewart's Colonisation Committee next year. The memorial prays for the extension of the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court to Lower Bengal, and the introduction of the English language in courts of large cities and towns in the Mofussil. These latter courts would possess civil and criminal jurisdiction, and administer English law to English citizens, native Christians, and others subject to English law, and *lex loci* and Mahomedan and Hindoo law to the native subjects now amenable to those codes. There is no measure so well calculated to encourage the introduction of Europeans, and to favour the application of their capital and industry for the improvement of the native population. In the hill settlements we must have English law, as we have in Canada, South Africa, and Australia.

The Colonisation Committee was reappointed on Tuesday night in the House of Commons, on the motion of Mr. Ewart, with the full consent of the Government and the concurrence of all parties. The proceedings of this committee are looked upon with the deepest interest in India, as they afford the basis for the future legislation and administration of India so far as English settlers are concerned.

It will be observed that on this occasion the intercourse between India and Tibet, China, and Central Asia is made a marked feature of the purposes of the committee, and thus a subject so long neglected may at length receive attention.

Lieutenant-Colonel Carleton has received an extended leave for the whole of this year to Simla and Mussoorie.

The Rev. H. H. Pace has been appointed Acting Chaplain of Deesa and Aboo.—Mr. G. Inverarity, collector of Surat, has leave for Mahabeshwur.

Now that the English are getting more settled down, they are indulging, as of old, in theatres and hounds. A pack of hounds is being hunted in the neighbourhood even of Lucknow.

We regret to find that the native Punjab army consists of no less than seventy thousand men. Thus we have a new nuisance created instead of an old one, but it is one receiving the attention of the public in India and at home.

Whatever may be the views of parties at home, the local Governments of India are fully aware that they must carry out public improvements if they are to consult the welfare of their citizens and subjects. The Government of Bengal have just given directions through the Department of Public Works for particulars of the dimensions and draught of water of steamers frequenting Calcutta, so that a dock may be constructed able to take in the largest class of steamers.

The dearth of steamers in India, which has been so prominently put forward by the public press, has led to increased exertions, and we are happy to report progress. Twelve steamers are announced as having arrived out in India, and a new steamer for the Indus, on the American river boat plan, from Scott Russell's yard, has this week had a trial trip down the Thames, and two companies are in the market here for funds to construct more steamers. The Oriental Inland Steam Company propose to double their capital, and the East India Steam Navigation Company propose to raise funds to purchase steamers and send out at once.

The *Dacca News* says that at this time there is no steamer between the great city of Dacca and Calcutta, nor has there been for at least two years, only steamers for the conveyance of troops on two or three occasions. There is trade enough for a dozen steamers.

The Calcutta Auction Company, limited, is at full work.

Some wealthy Mahomedan merchants of the Khoja sect have formed a company at Bombay for the purpose of establishing a commission agency in England, with branch firms at Bombay and China. The capital is to be 100,000*l.*, in one hundred shares of 1000*l.* each.

Among the new substances announced in India is a preparation of a well-known plant—the Callicarpa—which has been found to give relief by smoking to severe fits of asthma. It is not a narcotic, and is free from the evil effects of stramonium.

A silver claret-cup is to be presented to Mr. David Parker by some of the officers of the Madras Railway.

Mr. W. Purdon, the executive engineer of the Khehra salt mines in the Punjab, has been obliged to come home for a time on account of ill health.

We are sorry to see that Captain A. B. Bayly, H.M. 8th Foot, has been appointed to officiate as executive engineer in the Sealkote Division of Public Works. It is ten chances to one that Captain Bayly ever received any engineering education; and it is deeply to be regretted that such appointments are given to officers of the army instead of to competent civil engineers. The railway companies have not yet been obliged to take officers out of the army, nor to employ sergeants and privates as subordinate assistants on public works.

The Christian Vernacular Society of Madras have no less than 354 schools, with 12,516 pupils. The languages taught are English to some few, Telugoo, Canarese, Malayalam, Tamil, and Singhaless.

As a further evidence of the Parsee intercourse with England, we learn that Professor Dadabhoi Nowrojee, late of the Elphinstone College at Bombay, is coming to England with Pestonjee Ruttonjee Colah, and Jamsajee Pallonjee, to set up a new mercantile firm. He will also bring some lads of the Cama family for education.

INDIA.

DETAILED despatches, with the Bombay date of 11th January, speak of Tantia Topee, Feroze Shah, and the Nana as being still at large, of the Begum of Oude as having attempted to render herself to mercy, and of the dissolution of the Enam Commission, as far as the Bombay Presidency is concerned. The *Friend of India* declares that the Commission is to be broken up. On the 17th December, Lord Clyde arrived in the neighbourhood of Baraich, the head-quarters of the Begum and Beni Mahdoo. On the 20th he entered the city, and on the 21st the Begum sent messengers to sue for terms. Her object was, however, frustrated by the rebel leaders, and the Commander-in-Chief resolved to march upon Vanparah. Some distance outside Vanparah, he had, on the 26th, a running fight with the rebels, inflicting great loss upon them, but while riding over some broken ground his horse came down, dislocating Lord Clyde's shoulder and hurting his face. His Excellency has since been carried in a dhoolie. The Nana Sahib did not wait to meet the Commander-in-Chief; he evacuated Churdah, and took refuge in a jungle-fort, thirty miles to the north-west.

The fugitive Sepoys from Oude have been refused an asylum in Nepal, those that ventured across the frontier having been driven back by the forces of Jung Bahadoor.

Feroze Shah's force has dwindled away to 700 cavalry, without guns. The blow struck at him by Brigadier Napier at Runnede proved most fatal to his interest. His object now is to effect a junction with Tantia Topee, who is still at liberty; we are however informed that he has met with several severe reverses. Major Roche's Neemuch column had made forced marches after him, and brought him to action at the pass leading from Pertaubghur, above Mundessore, to the Chumbul. Tantia, fancying he had to deal only with cavalry, entered the passage on the 24th, and was totally surprised by Roche's force, whose artillery, under Captain Bolton, opened upon him at short range with considerable effect. Tantia did not attempt to resist. He fled, leaving some men and elephants in our hands, and proceeded to the eastward. Colonel Somerset despatched Colonel Benson in pursuit. Tantia got to the Chumbul, crossed it before his pursuers, and, still running east, entered Zeerapore, in the territory of Holkar, one hundred miles south-east of Neemuch, on the 26th of December. Colonel Benson caught him at Zeerapore, after a forced march, and fought another action, in which the rebels lost more men and elephants. Still Tantia escaped and fled to the northward. On the 1st of January Colonel Somerset caught him at Bursode, fifty miles north-east of Kotah. Colonel Somerset's strength was, however, too numerically weak to do more than disperse the rebels, and the slippery chief escaped into the Jeypore territory.

The ex-King of Delhi has been sent to Rangoon, instead of the Cape of Good Hope.

The Madras Presidency has felt a smart shock of an earthquake, which seems to have extended from Peshawar down to Madras.

At Poona a military riot has occurred, in which the 86th and Royal Artillery were the parties concerned. One man has been killed and six or seven wounded. A court of inquiry has been sitting.

A religious quarrel at Tinnevely has terminated disastrously. On the 22nd December the Brahmins of Tinnevely commenced a riot, by endeavouring to prevent a Christian funeral from passing along the road in front of their sacred edifice. Three companies of Sepoys were called in to restore order, and in doing so they used their fire-arms and killed thirty-nine of the people.

The murderer of Captain Hare was caught at Ashtee, in North Berar, on the 9th December, and blown from a gun.

Further telegraphic news has been received this week from Alexandria. By a notification, dated Allahabad, the 1st of January, the Punjab is raised into a separate Presidency. At Calcutta the Oude campaign was considered closed. A telegram from Allahabad, dated the

11th of January, reports from Gwalior that three thousand of Tantia Topee's force had crossed the Chumbul on their way to Jeypore.

THE NANA SAHIB.

Mr. Russell writes to the *Times*:—"The Nana is in the jungle fort of Churda, living with the Rajah of the place, eight miles north of Nanparah. To secure him is now actually the great object avowed by most people except the authorities. But he must not be startled from his lair—there must be no precipitate hasty move to frighten the cowardly, sanguinary heart of Bhitoor, till the toils are around him. And it will be difficult indeed to set them surely, for he is amid the jungles, where his nature must be at home, and his capture will be effected probably by treachery and stratagem rather than by force. Already he is roused and away. Since I wrote the few lines above, we hear that the Nana has moved from Churda to the north-west, in denser jungle still. We shall see. There is 15,000*l.* set on his person—if it were on his dead body, Nana Sahib's head might soon be in our camp. We cannot secure the death even of the Nana by an offer for him 'dead or alive.' There are, however, other means on which we may rely with more confidence—the treachery and avarice of his own friends. Already active brains are at work, and the spiders are spinning their threads. When we were at Fyzabad, the chief of police had already endeavoured to communicate with the Rajah of Churda, and was well pleased to find that the latter, as far as outward appearances went, was quite ready to betray the Nana upon certain conditions. A strong letter has, at all events, been addressed to him, assuring him that if he captures the Nana he will not only receive all that he asks, but secure the favour and rewards of the British Government. As to the means of the Rajah to seize upon the Nana we know nothing. The latter is at a remote fort in the Churda territory; access to him on the part of our spies is all but impossible. Accounts as to his strength are different, but he is believed to have an escort of 300 or 400 well-mounted cavalry, and two horse artillery guns. As he has never fought, it does not much matter how many men he has, but the Nana rides fast, and has taken care to have the best horses in the country; his escort know the passes; in fact, there is no chance of surprising one whose every instinct is sharpened by the ever-present fear of well-deserved death; who is on his guard night and day; who knows every movement in our camp, and the route of every column. There is no doubt on my mind that while the Begum and her party are negotiating with us they and the Nana are also endeavouring to induce the Nepalese Government to give them an asylum. The attitude of Jung Bahadoor, as exhibited on one occasion recently, proves that he is alive to the duties of an ally on such occasions.

CHINA.

ADVICES have been received from Hong Kong to the 29th December. Lord Elgin's flotilla, composed of five steamers and several gunboats, had proceeded up the river beyond Nankin. The object of his expedition was considered of so much importance that the French Ambassador and the Chinese Commissioners had delayed their departure from Canton in order to await the result.

STEAM CARRIAGE ON COMMON ROADS.—The Marquis of Stafford is in possession of a new kind of steam engine for running on the road. It weighs little more than a ton, and is capable of travelling at from fourteen to sixteen miles per hour. It runs upon three wheels, and is guided by a handle in front similar to a velocipede. It is of two-horse power, and is fitted with a seat in front capable of holding four passengers, including the driver. The Marquis, Lord Grosvenor, Lord Blantyre, and another, rode through Newport from Lilleshall Hall on Friday. It appears to be somewhat unwieldy and rather noisy in its progress, and the steam may probably be unpleasant to the passengers, the funnel being close to their backs.

A SIGN OF THE TIMES.—It is noticed that the number of Italian refugees in London has considerably diminished during the last few days.

THE COALWHIPPERS.—A deputation from the Coalwhippers' Association waited on the Earl of Derby for the purpose of inducing the Government to re-enact the bill which expired in 1856. The deputation consisted of Lord Kinnaird and several gentlemen connected with the coal trade. Lord Kinnaird, in introducing the deputation, said that the men wanted a "Parliamentary office," by means of which the employer and employed might be brought together without the intervention of "middlemen," consisting of low publicans, coffeehouse-keepers, and owners of lodging-houses, who frightfully mulcted the coalwhippers on a truck system of the most nefarious character. He was about to introduce a bill for the purpose of restoring the old system, which had worked well and satisfactorily for masters and men, and he hoped the Government would give it their support. The Earl of Derby said the subject was deserving of consideration, and the Government would give their best attention to it. He saw no objection at present to the request of the deputation.

COMMERCIAL.

BANKRUPTCY BILL.

WHEN a gentleman requires a new suit he does not apply to one of those ingenious artists who, for the salesmen of Holywell-street or Houndsditch, make cast-off garments look like new. He applies to Nichol or Moses, or some other merchant-tailor. If he be particularly choice in his apparel his vests are made by one professional, his nether clothing by a second, and his coats by a third. Or if he want a dog-kennel built, or resolve to erect a mansion, he goes to an architect for a plan, and never employs the working bricklayer or carpenter both to design and do the work. Division of labour is carried to an astonishing extent in our private affairs, and the man who carries the hod does not lay the bricks. In public affairs we act differently, and a Nisi Prius lawyer, who has been all his life darning and mending suits, or putting together the odds and ends of broken pleas, turning them into cases, having become a Lord Chancellor by the exigencies of a political party, is at once found qualified to frame the most important legislation. Lawyers, as the rule, make bad statesmen, and worse legislators. Skill of all kinds is more a mental habit than dexterity in the hands, and we might as well expect statesmanlike views from the parish beadle as comprehensive legislation from men whose minds are formed by the minute details and sharp practices of our courts of law. We are not, therefore, surprised that the Lord Chancellor has only proposed to set a "patch" on our bankruptcy laws, not to make or even consolidate a code. The noble Lord should not, however, be urged beyond his last, for he must be incapable of any but routine and official greatness.

His poor excuse for adding another patch to the Prisoners Act, the Protection Act, the Bankrupt Act, and the Insolvent Act, is the difficulty of at once getting the assent of Parliament to a new or enlarged principle, and combining it with an act consolidating the old laws. A statesman would have got this terrible lion out of his path, and given us a consolidated code by procuring from both Houses a joint resolution that it is desirable to administer all insolvency in one court and on one principle. Having got the assent of both Houses to that resolution, which carries with it all the proposed reforms, he would have been sure of obtaining the assent of both Houses to the measure which should carry out in a reasonable manner that principle, and consolidate into one code all the laws concerning insolvency. To such a comprehensive scheme the mind of the Nisi Prius lawyer is unequal, and the Lord Chancellor proposes to increase our difficulties by introducing a new law, and leaving the old one unaltered and unrepaid. In the same rude manner our legislation has been conducted time out of mind, as Mr. Chadwick and Sir James Stephen lately bore witness, and so it will be conducted to the end of society unless some means be devised for bringing it completely within the influence of that living principle of progress—the division and incessant sub-division of labour. We point our remarks more against the system than the individual. Lord Chancellor Thesiger has done as well as other Lord Chancellors, and as well as could be expected of him.

We can scarcely describe his measure from the report of his speech, much less comment on it. It substitutes one system of laws and one court, to be called the Insolvent Court, for bankrupt traders and insolvent non-traders, but he only allows the latter to have the benefit of the act, or exposes them to its provisions when they apply for it, when they have left the country, or when they have incurred judgment debts, and failed to satisfy their creditors. At present, passing through a bankruptcy court sets a man perfectly free, and all the property he afterwards acquires is his own. The property of a discharged insolvent, afterwards acquired, is still liable for his former debts. There are many difficulties connected with placing an insolvent on the same footing as a bankrupt, such as arise from entailed estates, and property afterwards inherited or subsequently accidentally acquired. Apparently, however, the principle which should guide the legislator is that the creditors should have claims only on the property which the debtor might be

likely to inherit when he contracted the debts, and the expectation of which influenced the creditor to trust him. All other property acquired after insolvency should be free. The bill will place the white-washed insolvent in this respect on the same footing as the certified bankrupt, and set all the property he subsequently acquires free from the claims of his previous creditors. It restrains, not abolishes, imprisonment for debt on final process; and a debtor likely to abscond, who has fraudulently contracted or vexatiously defended a debt, or who has incurred damages in an action of tort, will be still liable to confinement. A bankrupt may, according to the bill, be kept without a certificate for five years, but he is not to be, as he may at present, for ever deprived of it. The Lord Chancellor properly refuses to allow the Insolvent Court to take cognisance of offences of the class of misdemeanours, and will not sanction a man being punished as a criminal unless convicted by the ordinary criminal courts. There are, probably, other alterations equally important projected, but the public cannot acquire an accurate knowledge of them till the bill be printed. So far as it goes and we understand it, it seems an improvement, but providing no more effectual means than are at present in use for winding up insolvent estates, and still subjecting every case of insolvency and bankruptcy to costly proceedings in law courts, instead of legalising favourable and quiet compromises and settlements by the mutual agreements of creditors and debtors without the help of a court, it falls far short of what the mercantile community demands, and will by-and-by command.

The Lord Chancellor has also introduced a measure to improve and consolidate the Winding-up Acts. In this case he recognises the propriety of doing what he declines to do in the other. His conduct, therefore, is not guided by principle, but by some of those small considerations which statesmen discard and lawyers cling to. The acts he proposes to consolidate and improve are entirely of modern date, and their many defects, originating with the profession, justify the opinion that lawyers make bad legislators. The Lord Chancellor's bill may, however, improve the Winding-up Acts, for in their present form they are considered to be little better than a nuisance.

GENERAL TRADE REPORT.

London, Friday Evening.

ALL the markets of the country continue to be well supplied, and there being no increased demand there is no tendency to a rise in prices. Some persons began to speculate on the possibility of war enhancing prices by the double operation of increasing consumption and diminishing production, but the speculation has not yet assumed a practical existence, and the corn markets, which would probably be the first to feel it, are quite inert. The price of wheat this week is much the same as last week. Sugar exhibits symptoms of firmness, but, on the whole, the markets are remarkably steady and dull. For the merchant this is not pleasant, for the consumer it is advantageous. His wants are supplied on fair and little varying terms.

This has been a quiet week in the manufacturing districts generally, but those branches of trade and manufactures connected with India and China commerce have felt renewed activity. The warlike preparations on the Continent, in spite of pacific declarations, continue to affect every branch of commerce injuriously. Though there is no positive falling off in any particular branch of staple manufacture, still it is admitted on all sides that the promise of general activity which the close of last year presented has been entirely dissipated by the sayings and doings of Powers on the Continent, who are waiting, as many people conjecture, but for a decent pretext to attack each other. Until the certainty of unbroken peace is more confirmed, it will be in vain to expect that either our home or our foreign trade will experience that expansion which ought to take place under the combined action of unusually cheap money and bare markets.

LIVERPOOL.—The cotton business was slack during the early period of the week, but became brisk within the last day or two. Prices, however, continue without alteration. The sales, both for export

and speculation, have been moderate. The latest advices from New York state that the receipts of cotton continue to be large, and that in the northern parts prices have somewhat advanced.

MANCHESTER.—The markets were rather dull at the outset, but became animated as the week progressed, and as the hostile appearances on the Continent mitigated. But the cause which gave the market its renewed impetus was the last information from India, which went to show that markets there were not overstocked, and that further supplies might be safely sent forward. Buyers are in the market for India and China goods, but they do not transact as much business as they want on account of the disinclination of manufacturers and spinners to give way in prices. For India 50's and 60's mules and 30's water are in request, and 16's to 24's water for China. The latest advices from India being considered of a very favourable nature, shirtings, madapolams, jaconets, and other cloths suited for the Eastern markets, were freely bought. The German buyers operated, but not to any extent. The export trade to the Mediterranean has been very slack in consequence of the unsettled aspect of affairs.

LEEDS.—Light fabrics continue in request, but fine goods are slack of demand. The markets may be considered quiet, but the trade is in a healthy condition, and prices are good. The White and Coloured halls have been tolerably well attended.

HUDDERSFIELD.—The shipping trade is dull for the season, but this cannot be wondered at. The home and provincial trade is brisk, and in some descriptions of goods an advance of price has been obtained.

ROCHDALE.—There is an impression that fall trade will soon take the place of the comparative slackness that has shown itself lately. Prices are considered not quite so firm, but the future is looked forward to with confidence.

BRADFORD.—Market for wool dull. The high prices of the finer sorts check trade. The colonial wool sales which are approaching principally engage attention.

LEICESTER AND NOTTINGHAM.—The hosiery trade continues good; the lace trade still keeps very dull.

BIRMINGHAM.—The hardware trade is quiet, but makers do not complain of any serious slackness.

COAL TRADE.—The dissatisfaction among the coal-miners in some of the South Staffordshire districts is not quite at an end. The trade generally is very fair.

BELFAST.—The spring trade is generally good, and the operatives appear to be experiencing the benefit as well as the manufacturers and dealers.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

THE half-yearly meeting of the Gloucester and Dean Forest Railway Company was held at Gloucester on Saturday. A dividend of 12s. 6d. per share was agreed to.

The ceremony of raising the first sod of the line of railway which is about to be constructed at Stratford-upon-Avon took place on Tuesday.

The half-yearly meeting of the West-end of London and Crystal Palace Railway Company is called for the 24th inst., and will be made special, to consider "certain proposed arrangements with reference to the Bromley and Farnborough Extension."

The Great Southern of India Railway Company have notified that the scrip must be sent in for registration and for exchange for share certificates by the 26th inst., under penalty of forfeiture.

The securities of the Grand Trunk Railway Company of Canada have been unfavourably affected by the official explanations respecting the demand for additional capital.

The half-yearly general meeting of shareholders of the South-Western Railway Company was held on Thursday at the Waterloo terminus. Charles Castleman, Esq., chairman of the company, presided. The report having been read and a dividend for the half-year at the rate of 5l. 15s. per annum agreed to, the chairman stated that the dispute with the London and Brighton Company was on the eve of amicable settlement. A very heated discussion took place upon the question of increased remuneration to the directors, which it was at length settled should be 3000l. a year instead of 2000l. A proposal to increase the salaries of the auditors was negatived. The resolution, approving of the lease to the company of the undertaking of the Salisbury and Yeovil Company, and the transfer of the Portsmouth Railway absolutely to the company, together with that conferring power on the directors to deal according to

their discretion with the opposition scheme now pending before Parliament, were duly proposed and carried.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Company on Thursday, a dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum on the first guaranteed stock, and 3 per cent. per annum on the second guaranteed stock, was agreed to.

The half-yearly meeting of the Cork and Brandon shareholders was held on Wednesday. Everything passed off very satisfactorily, and the directors recommended dividends to be paid on the No. 1 preference shares at the rate of 5½ per cent., and on the No. 2 preference shares at the rate of 5 per cent., both to be paid on the 1st of March. The report was adopted.

BILLS FOR RAILWAYS.—Mr. Frore, the examiner, has disposed of the following bills:—North Staffordshire Railway—the standing orders not complied with. Metropolitan Railway (abandonment of the undertaking, &c.)—the standing orders not complied with.

GREAT SOUTHERN OF INDIA RAILWAY.—It appears that the estimated cost of the first section of the railway from Negapatam to Trichinopoly being now fixed, with the sanction of the Secretary of State for India in Council, at 500,000*l.*, that amount only will be called up. Any scrip certificates remaining unregistered on the 26th instant are to be cancelled, and the money paid thereon forfeited to the company.

JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES.

A general meeting of the Great Ship Company is called for the 25th instant.

An injunction in the Vice-Chancellors' Court has been obtained by the Phoenix Assurance Company (proprietors of the well-known fire-office in Lombard-street), to restrain the newly-constituted Phoenix Life and Marine Office from carrying on business as, or using the name of, the "Phoenix" Assurance Company of London.

The directors of the Oriental Inland Steam Company announce that, in consequence of the demand for steam vessels upon the Indian rivers, they have resolved to double the company's capital.

A meeting of the Atlantic Telegraph Company is called for the 23rd instant, for the purpose of further considering the present position of the company's affairs.

A general meeting of shareholders in the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China is called for the 25th instant, when a dividend is to be declared.

At a meeting of the Mediterranean Extension Telegraph Company, Mr. S. Gurney in the chair, the report was adopted unanimously, and a dividend declared for the past half-year at the rate of six per cent. per annum. The defect in the cable between Cagliari and Malta has been repaired, and through communication re-established. Nothing certain can be stated as to the cost incurred by the accident, but it is estimated at about 1000*l.* A portion of the cable raised from a considerable depth in the sea was found to be as perfect as when it was first laid down.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, the 9th day of February, 1859.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued.....	£	Government debt..	£
33,248,570		11,015,100	
		Other securities ...	3,469,900
		Gold coin and bullion	18,708,570
		Silver bullion	

£33,248,570 £38,248,570

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' capital 14,533,000	£	Government securities (including Dead Weight Annuity)	£
Reserve	3,365,590	Other Securities, 16,512,809	
Public deposits (including Exchequer, Commissioners of National Debt, Savings Banks, and Dividend Accounts) ..	7,329,287	Notes	12,925,985
Other deposits	14,484,993	Gold and Silver Coin	602,435
Seven Day & other Bills	793,613		

£40,526,476 £40,526,476

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Dated the 10th day of February, 1859.

MESSES. CALVERT AND CO.—A meeting of creditors of this firm was held on Tuesday, when a very elaborate address was made by Mr. William Smalley, showing the different phases of the liabilities, &c., under various assumed circumstances, which resulted in the unanimous determination to continue the powers of the inspectors, and to amalgamate the two estates, thus relinquishing all further litigation as to the distinction between creditors of the firm as constituted prior to 1856 and as it existed at the time of the suspension. A resolution to the following effect was carried with acclamation:—"That in the opinion of this meeting it is not expedient to contest the rights of the creditors whose debts were not taken over by the new firm to rank as creditors of the existing firm."

HOME, COLONIAL, & FOREIGN PRODUCE MARKETS.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Mining-lane, Friday Evening.

In those branches of trade which depend upon our Continental connexions, some improvement has followed the more hopeful light in which political affairs are regarded, and although the improvement is as yet but partial, it is accepted as satisfactory evidence of what might be expected were the fears of war entirely dispelled. In the home trade but little if any change is apparent, both demand and values continuing to exhibit their wonted steadiness.

CORN.—The features of the corn trade have not varied materially. Supplies of both English and foreign wheat have been only moderate, but the condition of the former having been deteriorated by the prevalent wet weather, purchases of such have been made with reserve, whilst the few good dry samples offering have been readily placed, current quotations remaining about as before. Prime dry old white, 50*s.* to 52*s.*; select qualities of new, 47*s.* to 49*s.*; runs, 45*s.* to 46*s.*; prime old red, 44*s.* to 46*s.*; new, 43*s.* to 44*s.*; good runs, 41*s.* to 42*s.*; fair, 39*s.* to 40*s.*; soft, 37*s.* to 38*s.* Foreign is still steadily held, but the demand is very moderate. For the prime white Dantzic 54*s.* to 55*s.* asked; good mixed, 50*s.* to 52*s.*; Brabant and Louvain white, 45*s.* to 46*s.*; red, 43*s.* to 44*s.*; St. Petersburg, 40*s.* to 42*s.*; Archangel, 34*s.* to 35*s.* per qr. Flour is still purchased for immediate requirements only, but prices are steady. Top price of town-made, 40*s.*; town households, 38*s.*; country ditto, 31*s.* to 32*s.*; whites, 33*s.*; prime seconds, 29*s.* to 30*s.*; best Norfolks, 28*s.*; French, 33*s.* to 37*s.* per sack. American brands, 23*s.* to 25*s.*; sour, 20*s.* to 21*s.* per barrel. *Malting barley* from its scarcity commands recent high prices fully, and the arrivals of foreign having moderated, these descriptions are firmer, and in some cases 6*d.* dearer; sweet samples of Black Sea import bringing 23*s.* per 50 lb., whilst some decline to sell at that price. Malt is difficult to quit; even the finest sorts meeting but a retail sale are quoted 66*s.*; ship samples, 63*s.* to 64*s.*; inferior to fair, 55*s.* to 60*s.* Beans are firm in price, with moderate imports; English seedling qualities in request. Peas of all descriptions are firm in price. Choice Scotch oats for seed have brought rather better prices, and all good horse-corn has been well supported.

CORN ARRIVALS.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat	qrs. 8622	—	5440
Barley	" 2854	—	2440
Malt	" 16,038	—	—
Oats	" —	6925	8556
Beans	" —	1825	877
Peas	" —	473	—

LONDON AVERAGES.

	Qrs.	s.	d.
Wheat	4303	at	44 8
Barley	374	"	33 3
Oats	3064	"	22 11
Beans	424	"	38 9
Peas	211	"	41 5

SEEDS.—Arrivals of linseed are unusually large, being 27,000 qrs., all East India, but the demand has been active, and prices have inclined in the sellers' favour. Only two cargoes of Black Sea seed are now off the coast undisposed of; the last price paid was 52*s.* 6*d.*, delivered U.K. On the spot Bombay is worth 55*s.* to 55*s.* 6*d.*, and Calcutta 51*s.* 6*d.* to 53*s.* as to quality. The demand for rapeseed is checked by the expectation of an early and abundant crop on the Continent, but any intervention of severe frost would prove highly critical, and the effect on prices would be considerable. Fine Calcutta is quoted at 51*s.*; fine Bombay Guzerat, 61*s.* to 62*s.*; Ferozepore and Scinde, 40*s.* to 54*s.*; teal, sesame, and Gingelly are neglected and merely nominal in value. Oil-cake has met a moderate sale: best oblong, 9*l.* 15*s.*; New York, and Baltimore, in brls., 10*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* to 10*l.* 19*s.* Undercorticated cotton seed cake sells at 5*l.* 5*s.* per ton.

HORS.—Fine samples continue in good demand, with an upward graduation in price. The lower qualities are also improving in demand and price. Mid. and East Kent, 96*s.* to 110*s.*; middling, 62*s.* to 80*s.*; Weald, 65*s.* to 66*s.*

POTATOES.—Supplies are moderate, and a fair demand prevails at the quotations:—York Regents, 90*s.* to 100*s.*; Scotch, 70*s.* to 80*s.*; Cups, 60*s.* to 80*s.*; French, 45*s.* to 65*s.* per ton.

LIVE STOCK.—The show of live stock has been of an average both as to quantity and quality. The trade has been heavy, but prices are in general pretty steadily maintained. The following were the numbers at market, and current quotations:—

MONDAY.			
Beast.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
454	16,000	133	400
4 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> to 4 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i>	4 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> to 5 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i>	4 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> to 5 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>	3 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> to 3 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>
THURSDAY.			
206	4,100	200	180
4 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> to 4 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i>	4 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> to 5 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i>	4 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> to 5 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>	3 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> to 3 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>

PROVISIONS.—At Newgate and Leadenhall the supplies during the week have been moderate and prices firm, but this morning there was rather more on offer. Beef made 4*s.* to 4*s.* 2*d.* for prime; 3*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 10*d.* for second; and 2*s.* 8*d.* to 3*s.* 4*d.* for inferior. Mutton, 4*s.* to 4*s.* 2*d.* for Downs; 3*s.* 8*d.* to 3*s.* 10*d.* for middling qualities; and 3*s.* 2*d.* to 3*s.* 4*d.* for ewe and inferior. Veal, 4*s.* to 4*s.* 4*d.* Pork, 3*s.* to 4*s.* 2*d.* per stone.

HIDES.—At the public sales of East India hides 154,789 kips, 13,764 tanned ditto, 5822 buffalo were offered, and 110,898 kips, 10,288 tanned ditto, 4916 buffalo sold. There was a steady demand for most descriptions at late rates to 4*d.* per lb. decline; but heavy and extra heavy averages were in request at full prices to 4*d.* per lb. advance. Buffalo hides sold rather more freely at full prices. Import from 1st January to 10th February, 1859, 361,744 hides; ditto from 1st January to 11th February, 1858, 284,424; sales from 1st January to 10th February, 1859, 464,958; ditto from 1st January to 11th February, 1858, 193,470. Present stock, 680,000 hides. Stock 10th February, 1858, 1,185,000 hides.

OILS.—Lined meets a steady demand, both for home use and export, at 29*l.* 15*s.* to 30*l.* on the spot; the latter price is offered for deliveries up to March, but 10*s.* is generally required. Rape oil is slow of sale and a shade lower; foreign, 45*l.* 10*s.*; brown, 42*l.*; English brown, 41*l.* Considerable sales have been made for monthly deliveries, April to December inclusive, at 44*l.* to 45*l.* for foreign refined and 40*l.* 10*s.* to 41*l.* for brown. Bombay ground nut or Gingelly, 34*l.* 10*s.*; Madras, 39*l.*; Niger, 35*l.* Olive oils are neglected. Gallipoli quoted 42*l.* to 49*l.* 10*s.*; Spanish, 47*l.* 10*s.* to 48*l.*, and Mogador, 44*l.* sellers. The sales of cocoa-nut are estimated at 1000 tons on the spot and for arrival, and Cochín is worth 42*l.* to 43*l.* 10*s.* in either position. Ceylon, 40*l.* to 40*l.* 10*s.* Palm oil has advanced—48*l.* for fine Lagos—in consequence of the continued rise at Liverpool. Spermin, of which the stock is in few hands, finds ready buyers at 98*l.* to 99*l.* per ton. Common fish oils are difficult of sale; pale seal quoted 36*l.*; cod, 31*l.* to 31*l.* 10*s.*; pale southern, 34*l.*

WHALE-FIN.—The market quiet; Davis Straits, 530*l.*; Southern, 380*l.*

TURPENTINE.—Rough has been in good demand, and 1000 brls. sold from store at 11*s.* Spirits are likewise dearer; 500 brls. American in one line brought 41*s.*, and 42*s.* is now asked. Some English for delivery in April has been sold at 42*s.*, without casks.

SUGAR.—The tone of the market has improved, the general demand having increased, though still not over active. Grainy sugars have fully recovered the recent depression, and good refining qualities are very firm, but low soft brown descriptions remain comparatively out of demand. Floating cargoes have also met a better inquiry. The clearances are satisfactory, but the arrivals of Bengal in particular having been heavy, stocks are increasing. West India is still sparingly offered, and the sales confined to 1304 brls. at full prices. Barbadoes, 40*s.* 6*d.* to 46*s.*, for low to fine yellow, and other imports in proportion. Mauritius have realised 38*s.* 6*d.* to 40*s.* for brown; 40*s.* 6*d.* to 46*s.* for grocery and refining yellow; crystallised, 46*s.* 6*d.* to 48*s.* 6*d.*; Bengal, white Benares, 46*s.* to 47*s.*; yellow, 40*s.* 6*d.* to 43*s.* 6*d.* Low soft Madras on sale were chiefly taken in at 34*s.* to 34*s.* 6*d.* for brown, and 36*s.* to 36*s.* 6*d.* for yellow. A floating cargo Mauritius (6800 bgs.) sold at 43*s.* 8*d.*; one of soft Rio Grande at 25*s.* 9*d.*, and one of soft Havannah, No. 12, at 29*s.* per cwt., for the United Kingdom. Refined sugars have met a moderate sale at steady prices. Brown lumps, 52*s.* 6*d.*

COFFEE.—Holders continue very firm. On the spot very little is offering, and full prices are exacted. Floating cargoes have been in increased demand for the Continent, and two of Rio have changed hands, the one at 46*s.*, for Hamburg, the other at 47*s.* 6*d.*, for the Mediterranean. The statistical position of the market has not undergone any change worthy of remark.

TEA.—Large public sales in the early part of the week resulted in a decline of 4*d.* per lb. on the ordinary descriptions of congou, and common was quoted 1*s.* 0*d.* at the close of the sales, flavoury teas supporting their value fully. Subsequently the market rallied under the influence of the China news, and with some increase in purchases common congou were again quoted 1*s.* 1*d.* The new crop of congou, arrived by the Cairngorin and Lammermuir, met considerable attention, the finest bringing 2*s.* 4*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* per lb. The shipments from China are advised by the present mail at 23,900,000 lbs. against 23,224,000 last year, and higher prices were paying both at Shanghai and Foo-Chow-Foo. The arrivals into London this week are the Spartan, New Great Britain, Cairngorin, and Lammermuir, with an aggregate of 3,827,800 lbs. The quantity afloat is 17,274,403 lbs. against 15,741,056 lbs. in 1858.

RICE.—With a quiet market prices are firm. The sales include about 10,000 bags; Bengal, at 7*s.* 7*d.* to 9*s.*; Arracan, 7*s.* 9*d.*; Aux Moulmain, at 8*s.*

SALTETRE.—Although less active, the market has been firm, and prices have ranged from 39*s.* to 44*s.* for 15½ to 2½ per cent. on the spot, and 40*s.* for arrival. About 1200 tons have arrived, but these will be required to meet the recent considerable purchase. Calcutta letters give steady shipments, with large stocks at

the port, and considerable additions expected from the interior. About 2800 tons are now on the way.

Prices in general are more in demand, especially for export. Pimento is 1d. dearer; 31d. to 31d. paid. Bengal ginger, at 16s. to 16s. 6d., is dearer. Mace and nutmegs have advanced 1d. on export kinds. Cloves are 1d. higher, and a good business effected in Zanzibar, at 21d. to 31d. Cassia Ligna sells unevenly, but averaging late rates.

FRUIT.—Currants heavy and depressed. Raisins firm, with anticipations of a good home and export demand.

INDIGO.—The quarterly sales of East India, comprising 9900 chta., opened flatly at a partial decline on the previous sales, but have since met a better competition, bringing the prices to a par with the average rates of the October sales. Kurpah and dry leaf Madras have been firm throughout. Of 6758 chta. passed the sale, 2774 have been withdrawn, 1115 bought in, and 2869 sold.

CUTCH has advanced to 36s. 6d., and Gambier to 15s. COTTON is firmer, with a better demand. 1000 bales sold in London at full rates generally, and 1-16d. advance for saw-grained. At Liverpool 67,700 have sold at prices establishing a partial rise of 1d. per lb.

HEMP AND JUTE are without quotable change.

METALS.—Scotch pig-iron has further declined to 51s. 9d.; spelter has also declined to 22l. 5s., beyond which no change has occurred in prices, and the general tone of the market is inactive.

TALLOW.—We have had a rather firmer market, and prices are a trifle higher. During the past two days a considerable business has been done on the spot, and nearly all for consumption; for speculation very little has been done, though more attention has been directed to April, June, and the last three months. The town tallow market was cleared of any surplus in the early part of the week. The consumers have purchased freely at the principal outports. The price at St. Petersburg, 169 to 170 ro. for August delivery. Exchange 35½ to 4 leaves no scope for our importers. P.Y.C. leaves off to-day quiet at 53s. 3d. spot; 53s. 3d., to 53s. 6d. February-March; 53s. 6d. March; 52s. 6d. to 52s. 9d. April-June; and 52s. 6d. to 52s. 9d. October-December. The P. sales to-day went off briskly: Town tallow, 54s. 3d.; rough fat, 2s. 10d.; melted stuff, 40s.

COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH RUSSIA.

The treaty of commerce and navigation with Russia, which was signed at St. Petersburg on the 12th ultimo, has been printed. It gives British subjects equal rights with those of any other foreign nation, and provides that the ports of each country shall be free to the other. British vessels are to be on an equality with Russian in all respects, except as regards the coasting trade, on which each country is still to reserve the right of making its own regulations. Vessels from Great Britain, however, may break bulk at any number of Russian ports, and may also load at any number. Freedom of residence and equality of taxation with Russian subjects is accorded, together with exemption from military or municipal service and forced loans, except for owners of real estate. Consuls may be appointed to all ports and towns. Means are to be taken by each Power to punish persons introducing goods with fraudulent trade marks. The Ionian Islands are to share the advantage of the treaty. It is to be for ten years, and ratifications are to be exchanged in London within six weeks from the 12th of January.

COTTON SUPPLY FOR ENGLAND.

MR. J. B. SMITH, M.P., has addressed a letter to Mr. John Cheetham, M.P., the chairman of the Cotton Supply Association. Mr. J. B. Smith says:—"The result of the inquiries of Mr. Bright's India Cotton Committee (1848), of which I was a member, led me to doubt whether India, which it was then said could produce only 40 lb. to 70 lb. of clean cotton per acre, could compete with America, which yields 400 lb. per acre; but we have since that time had further light on this subject, which leaves no doubt in my mind that India, emancipated from the trammels which bind her, can produce cotton equal in quality, and as cheap or cheaper than America. But I repeat, this can only be accomplished by European capital and agency."

"The evidence before the India Colonisation Committee of last session shows what has been done by one Englishman settling down in a cotton district, even with the present disadvantages attending the settlement in that country. Mr. Landon established himself in Guzerat, in the centre of a cotton-growing district; he raised extensive buildings, and filled them with machinery, worked by steam, for cleaning and packing cotton. He bought their crops of the ryots, with the seed, cleaned and packed it, and sent it to Bombay, either for sale or shipment to England. A native house, encouraged by Mr. Landon's success, has also erected similar works. Mr. Landon stated—what I heard for the first time—that the produce of clean cotton from native seed at Broach

averages 200 lb. per acre; but he also stated an interesting and important fact—viz. that as much as 600 lb. of clean cotton per acre was produced on some lands. Now this cotton is grown on moist land, and is finer and longer in staple than that grown on dry land. We had also evidence that cotton was formerly grown on irrigated land in India; and this fact, with the evidence that 600 lb. per acre can be grown on moist land, confirms the information we previously had, that 350 lb. to 400 lb. of clean cotton has been produced on irrigated land.

"Do not these facts suggest that what has been effected by Mr. Landon in Guzerat may be done by Europeans in other districts? Would not the funds of your association be as legitimately appropriated to the encouragement of establishments like that of Mr. Landon, in different parts of India, as in sending out seeds to different countries? And, seeing that so large a produce per acre is grown in Broach from native seed, would it not be well rather to try the effects of good cultivation of the native seed before you go to the expense of other seeds?"

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, February 8.

BANKRUPTS.

THOMAS HILL, Liverpool, broker.
GEORGE ALLIBONE DRAGE, Olney, Buckinghamshire, boot and shoe manufacturer.
HARRY RICHARD TRIGO, Kingston-upon-Thames and Esher, Surrey, builder and carpenter.
JOHN BROWN, Crawford-street, Bryanston-square, John-street West, Edgeware-road, and Oxford-market, Oxford-street, grocer and cheesemonger.
CHARLES MEADS COLEMAN, Foleshill, Warwickshire, farmer, lime burner, and manufacturer of bricks and tiles.
JAMES HICKS, Great Driffield, Yorkshire, shoemaker.
WILLIAM MCKINSTRY, Liverpool, broker and commission merchant.
MARGARET WILSON, Halifax, milliner.
WILLIAM MANNION, Liverpool, currier and leather dealer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

F. LANGAN, Crutched Friars, wine merchant.
J. B. FERNIE, Kilnux, Fifeshire.
W. WOOD, Forfar, cabinet maker.
G. MACKENZIE, Dingwall, writer.
W. ORMISTON, Glasgow, merchant.
LAWRIE AND GARDNER, Edinburgh, merchants.
R. COCHRANE, Windyedge, Renfrewshire, farmer.
J. COCKBURN, Glasgow, fish merchant.
J. DICKIE, Glasgow, timber merchant.

Friday, February 11.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

ARTHUR M'DONALD, Kingston-upon-Hull, innkeeper.

BANKRUPTS.

WILLIAM TRIGO, Witley, Surrey, builder.
WILLIAM JENNINGS, Sneinton, Nottingham, lace dresser.
HENRY WOOD, Long Eaton, Derbyshire, baker.
JOHN LEAKE, Newark-upon-Trent, Nottingham, wine and spirit merchant.
JOHN PETER GEORGE SMITH, Liverpool, banker.
JOHN COLLINGWOOD, Tarleton, Rhyl, Flintshire, shipowner.
JAMES SCHOFIELD, Vicars Moss, and Blue Pits, Rochdale, Lancashire, grease manufacturer.
FRANCIS HOLLINGTON, Worcester, draper.
HENRY JOHN GROVES, Newport, Monmouth, music seller.
EDWARD BODY, Ramsgate, furniture dealer.
PHILIP JONES, Mynyddysllwyn, Monmouthshire, dealer.
ROBERT WELLS, Bristol, grocer.
THOMAS VABOE, St. Austell, Cornwall, carpenter.
MICHAEL HOLLOWAY DEAN, Ashbourne, Derbyshire, grocer.
EDWARD YAPP, Leominster, butcher.
WILLIAM PAPPILL COLLINS and HENRY EDWARD COLLINS, Paternoster-row, City, mapsellers.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

JAMES TROUP and SON, Strathmiglo, manufacturers.
ALEXANDER FRASER, Glasgow, sculptor.
DAVID WALKER, Leith, ironmonger.
DAVID RODGERS, Edinburgh, lace and muslin merchant.

GLASGOW SHIPOWNERS' ASSOCIATION.—At a meeting on Monday, a petition to Parliament was fully discussed and adopted, and will, after being submitted for signature of the shipping interest, be presented by Mr. Buchanan, M.P., who has engaged to take charge of it. The petition differs in some respects from those adopted in London and elsewhere, especially as it very properly suggests as a reason why attention should be paid to the present complaints of the shipowners, that the operation of the existing laws may be to induce British shipowners to invest their capital in foreign ships, which, while they possess all the privileges British vessels can claim, have, in addition, various important advantages in other foreign ports. The petition also alleges any wish to meddle with the principles of free trade.

MONEY MARKET AND STOCK EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY EVENING.

THE uncertainty as to peace or war which still continues—for no words can assure people against the evidence of facts—paralyzes all operations. There is no increase in the demand for money, which continues abundant, and the best bills are discounted below 2 per cent. There is little or no business on the Stock Exchange, where everybody is full of doubts and apprehensions. Nor can any person foresee how long this condition may last, since the speech which was to restore confidence has failed to have the effect. To-day there was a rumour that the Emperor of Russia had expressed a very strong opinion against every attempt to coerce Austria into taking a course she is unwilling to take, but those who have watched the relations between Russia and Austria, refuse to believe that Russia would interfere on her side. Some solution of the difficulty is hoped for by some from the Congress which must, it is said, be assembled to settle the affairs of the Principalities, but before that can meet there must be much suffering from delay, even if events should not bring the whole matter to issue. The obvious source of the continued uneasiness is, that persons, whatever experience may indicate, do not and cannot trust the French Emperor. How long the enterprising and leading men of the world—the men who make railways and construct telegraphs—who cover the ocean with ships and the land with produce, will submit to have their hopes blighted and their property destroyed by those who do not command their respect cannot be known, but it excites wonder that they do not take more energetic means to put an end to their own sufferings and losses.

The stock market has been dull and drooping through the week, and to-day Consols were about the same as yesterday, 95½. They were flat at the opening on account of an incorrect report that the price of the French funds had become worse yesterday after the close of our market. They afterwards recovered, but did not get above the yesterday's rates.

A report prevails to-day that the Secretary for India will propose on Monday to the House of Commons to authorise him to contract with the guarantee of the Government an Anglo-Indian loan for 12,000,000l. A loan for Peru, too, is forthcoming, and it is confidently anticipated that the French Emperor will also be obliged to come into the market.

The returns of the Bank of France to February 10th show a small decrease of bullion, a larger increase of bills discounted, a reduction in the circulation, and a large increase of private deposits. It seems as if the moneyed class there were preparing for a strain on their resources.

Among the valuable projects of the day, which the prevailing rumours of war will no doubt for a time affect, should be mentioned that of a railway between the London-bridge and Waterloo stations. Many years ago this was schemed by an able gentleman named Heathfield, who, we remember, well succeeded in demonstrating its financial as well as engineering feasibility. The very desirable and practicable metropolitan railway, conceived, we believe, in the first instance, by Mr. Charles Pearson, and, after long abeyance, again brought forward by that talented and energetic man, will also, perhaps, raise its capital but slowly. But, for the sake of those who have already locked up the Chancery deposit for it, and of the classes it must benefit by opening easy communication between the city and the country, we anxiously look to see it well afloat.

LIVERPOOL AND HOLYHEAD.—At the meeting of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board on Thursday, it was stated that the proposal to establish a line of telegraph between Liverpool and Holyhead had revived some obsolete claims of the Crown, respecting which the Board's solicitor had been directed to write to the authorities. The dock engineer reported that he had engaged Mr. Lionel Gisborne to assist him in executing the works. It was also stated that the engineer had been directed to select the best places near the docks for time balls.

TELEGRAPH BETWEEN FRANCE AND ALGERIA.—The *Akhbar* of Algiers says that a project for establishing a direct submarine cable between Algiers and Marseilles had been presented to Prince Napoleon by an Algerian, and that a French company is being formed to carry out the project.

THE GROSS PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

An account of the gross public income and expenditure for the year ending 31st December, 1858, is given in a Parliamentary paper published on Wednesday, and in a very intelligible form. The items on both sides are as follows:

INCOME.		
Customs	£24,091,999	13 6
Excise	17,966,000	0 0
Stamps	7,996,342	18 10
Taxes (land and assessed) ...	3,158,033	7 4
Property Tax	7,591,187	14 9
Post-office	3,075,000	0 0
Crown Lands	277,440	9 5
Produce of the sale of old stores and other extra receipts ...	1,291,643	5 2
Money received from the revenues of India, for retired pay, pensions, &c.	60,000	0 0
Miscellaneous receipts, including interest and other moneys ...	653,952	10 10
Unclaimed dividends received ...	125,395	11 10
	66,286,995	11 8
EXPENDITURE.		
Interest and management of the permanent debt	23,546,878	1 9
Unclaimed dividends paid ...	46,674	8 7
Terminable annuities	3,969,602	16 10
Interest of Exchequer bonds, 1854 and 1855	156,250	0 0
Interest of Exchequer bills, supply Do. do. deficiency	781,917	10 0
	156	5 0
CHARGES ON CONSOLIDATED FUND.		
Civil list	406,871	5 0
Annuities and pensions	339,405	19 5
Salaries and allowances	158,060	3 8
Diplomatic salaries and pensions ...	162,638	16 2
Courts of justice	598,885	12 2
Miscellaneous charges on the Consolidated Fund	166,714	16 7
SUPPLY SERVICES.		
Army, including Militia, Commissariat, and Ordnance ...	12,588,736	0 6
Navy, including packet service and transports	9,637,103	13 3
Miscellaneous civil services	7,253,059	9 5
Salaries, &c., of revenue departments	4,474,440	4 3
China naval and military operations	391,943	0 0
War expenses (Russia)	230,000	0 0
	64,909,338	2 7
Sinking fund on the loan of 5,000,000, per Act 19 Vict. c. 21 ...	250,000	0 0
	65,159,338	2 7
Excess of income over expenditure in the year ended 31 Dec., 1858	1,127,657	9 1
	£66,286,995	11 8

TRADE IN FRANCE.—The same state of stagnation in business which has been remarked of late still prevails. No transactions of importance took place during the past week on speculation, and purchases have been confined to immediate wants. The stocks of merchandise on hand are becoming more and more limited, and manufacturers do not appear at all inclined to replenish them until the political horizon becomes somewhat clearer. Accounts from Mulhausen and Rouen are perhaps more satisfactory than in the capital. The stocks both of woven goods and twist are small, and the manufacturers are able to maintain firmer prices. From Lyons and St. Etienne the advices are less cheering. Several orders, which had been given both for Paris and abroad, have been provisionally countermanded. The prices of raw silk both at Marseilles and the other markets of the south have a downward tendency. At Havre business in raw cotton was rather animated at the commencement of the week, and prices improved; towards the close of the week, however, affairs became more calm, purchasers expecting that, according to the last accounts from New York, prices would recede. Little or nothing has been done in raw sugar, and prices are nominal, the market, however, having a downward tendency. Very little doing in refined sugar. Business in coffee continues limited, buyers holding back for lower prices. Copper continues firm, but the market shows but little animation; lead and zinc are rather on the decline. The rise which took place in oil at the end of last month has not been maintained, and the business transacted during the week has been at a slight decline.

WAGES IN BLACKBURN.—The general meeting of spinners and manufacturers to consider what reply should be given to the request of the operatives for an advance of wages, was held on Wednesday. The following resolution was carried unanimously:—"That this meeting, taking into consideration the several years of

severe trial which the cotton trade has experienced, and that we have not yet sufficient ground for concluding that the improvement which has recently shown itself will be permanent in its character, considers that the application of the operatives for an advance of wages is premature, and at present cannot be acceded to."—*Manchester Guardian*.

THE PORT OF ANTWERP.—A correspondent of the *Continental Review* writes:—"The men of Antwerp are much concerned at the progress of the silting up of the Scheldt. Quite lately a vessel loaded with guano ran aground at a spot where, in 1803, when the soundings were taken, there were twenty metres of water. In 1830 the depth of water was reduced to ten, and at present there are but six metres of water at that spot. This silting up is unfortunately general throughout the Scheldt. The deposits of alluvial soil extend from year to year. Tufts of seaweed spring up, and are succeeded by herbs and shrubs. At this stage the riverain population interfere and make dykes, and the ground thus conquered from the river is converted into *polders*, which furnish magnificent pastures, and are sold at high rates. But the river suffers. At the beginning of the century it was practicable for whole fleets of men-of-war. At present, in a river of a breadth of fifteen hundred metres, only a portion of about two hundred metres is navigable for sea-going ships, and this channel of deep water is so tortuous that no vessel can follow it without the aid of pilots. Even these pilots are not always safe guides, for the silting soil shifts from day to day in this the only practicable portion of the river. If this process continue—and no means is as yet known to successfully stop it—the port of Antwerp will soon be inaccessible for sea-going ships, and it will be necessary to make an outer port, as is the case in the majority of the Baltic ports. I do not believe that the commercial prosperity of Antwerp is likely to suffer from this change, but this most important fact is undeniable—that under present circumstances great fleets cannot either be built or sheltered in the port of Antwerp; in other words, Antwerp can no longer be considered as a great naval port. You will be able to fully appreciate the importance of this fact."

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.—In the year ending the 31st of December, 1858, the public income of the United Kingdom amounted to 66,286,995*l.*, and the public expenditure to 65,159,338*l.*, leaving a balance of income amounting to 1,127,657*l.* The balances in the Exchequer at the end of the year were 7,755,455*l.* The following are the items of the income of 1858:—Customs, 24,091,999*l.*; Excise, 17,966,000*l.*; stamps, 7,996,342*l.*; taxes (land and assessed), 3,158,033*l.*; income tax (inaccurately styled "property tax"), 7,591,187*l.*; Post-office, 3,075,000*l.*; and Crown lands, 277,440*l.* The items of expenditure are:—Interest and management of the public debt, 23,546,878*l.*; the charges on the Consolidated Fund, 1,832,576*l.*; and the supply services, 34,575,282*l.* The Army (in this last item) figures for 12,588,736*l.* (including Commissariat, Ordnance, and Militia charges); the Navy (including packet service, transports, &c.), for 9,637,103*l.*; Miscellaneous Civil Services, for 7,253,059*l.*; the salaries of Revenue Departments, for 4,474,440*l.*; the China Naval and Military operations, for 391,943*l.*; and the war expenses (Russia), for 230,000*l.* The Civil List costs the country 406,871*l.*; annuities and pensions, 339,405*l.*; salaries, &c., 158,060*l.*; diplomatic salaries, &c., 162,638*l.*; and courts of justice, &c., 598,885*l.*

NEW PERUVIAN LOAN.—It is reported that the Peruvian Government propose to contract in this country a loan of 10,000,000*l.* redeemable within five years, the whole of the guano revenue being mortgaged for its repayment. The liquidation of the existing foreign debt of Peru, 5,400,000*l.*, is said to form part of the scheme, and it is supposed that the present stockholders will have the option of exchanging their securities for bonds in the new loan, or of receiving payment on terms to be hereafter adjusted.

AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS IN IRELAND.—In the beginning of last week the general character of the weather has been wet and boisterous, but it has since moderated. It is an unusual thing to complain of drought so late in the winter, but as there is no snow to melt there is a decided deficiency of water. Rain may ultimately come, however. Farm work is now going on in its regular course, and some few beans have been planted. There has been a fair supply of seed qualities brought forward, and a sufficiency will most probably be found, although fine samples are not over abundant. This is, however, not the case with some sorts of peas—maples in particular are extremely scarce, and those who will plant this description must make up their mind to pay very dear for them. Other sorts are more plentiful, particularly white boilers—of the two latter there will be an abundance for seed purposes. The land intended for barley will be ready for the usual period, and the demand is now coming on. There have been increased deliveries since prices have advanced a little, the returns of the week being larger than the two previous, but now most probably they will fall off. Of choice qualities there is likely to be a scarcity at seed time; while of the medium sorts more will be brought out, and clean parcels, although not so bold, may be used with confidence. The sudden changes

in the weather have materially affected the condition of wheat samples, and this is much against the trade generally. However, the farmers may soon be better engaged than thrashing wheat at present prices.—*Freeman's Journal*.

PEEL RIVER COMPANY.—There was a meeting of the Peel River Land and Mineral Company yesterday, at which a report of a very favourable nature was read. It appeared that the amount received during the six months for gold licenses was 300*l.*, and that sales of live stock had taken place to the extent of 1374*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* This not being the meeting for the proposition of a dividend, the chairman said the accounts received to that date were satisfactory, and that the finances of the company in London are at present as follows:—Late purchase of Victoria Bonds, 9200*l.*; on Government security, 8000*l.*; cash at banker's, 1632*l.*; and balance of Sanderson's loan, 1512*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.* There were only a few observations made, after which the report was adopted.

GOVERNMENT EMIGRATION.—Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners chartered two ships on the 10th instant—viz. the Queen of England, 1256 tons, to sail from Liverpool for Sydney, New South Wales, at 15*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.* per statute adult, and the Bride, 565 tons, to sail from Plymouth for Algon Bay, Cape of Good Hope, at 14*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*—the former vessel to be ready for the reception of passengers on such days as may be appointed between the 21st and 28th of March, and the latter any day between the 7th and 14th. The Commissioners have given notice of their intention to receive, on Monday next, the 14th instant, tenders for the supply of beds and bolsters, either of cotton, flock, cork, or other approved material, for the use of emigrants embarking in Government emigrant ships from the three ports, Liverpool, Plymouth, or Southampton, or each port separately, or two together.

TRADE IN CHINA.—The commercial advices by the last mail are dated Hong-Kong, Dec. 30. They are as follows:—A fair business has been done during the past fortnight in Canton, and moderate transactions have taken place here also. Exchange has declined. Bank bills on London, 4*s.* 7*d.*; credits, 4*s.* 7*d.* Imports have been in good demand, and stocks of English manufactures are small. The following transactions are reported for both places:—Cotton: 2749 bales Bombay sold. Quotations are—for common, 8*s.* to 10*s.* 9*s.*; middling to good, 10*s.* 3*d.* to 11*s.* 11*d.*; fine, 11*s.* 5*d.* to 12*s.* 12*d.* Cotton Yarn: 376 bales sold. Nos. 28-32 are much inquired for. Tea: Higher prices paid for each purchase, and the tea men remain very firm. It was hoped that the news of the 9th of November would induce somewhat easier prices, but such has not been the case, the Chinese being quite alive to the effect of a short supply, which receives daily confirmation. Only ten chops have come to market during the fortnight, and stocks are reduced to three chops of old congou, six chops new, and eight chops old souchong; while the total export from China to Great Britain shows a decrease of 4,215,000 lb., as compared with 1857-58, and 12,180,000 lb., with 1856-57. The export to America is also 1,000,000 lb. short, and stocks at all the ports are very trivial.

TRIBUNAL OF COMMERCE.—A meeting of the Tribunals of Commerce Association was held at the London Tavern on Wednesday, Francis Lyne, Esq., in the chair, when a report was adopted which set forth the proceedings of the committee and the progress made in the cause. Resolutions strongly advocating the necessity of establishing tribunals or courts of commerce were unanimously carried. A vast number of letters of apology were read, regretting the inability of the writers to attend, but cordially supporting the movement.

Gossip FROM MILAN.—In this place a statement is most industriously circulating among the population and the troops, according to which Francis-Joseph not only holds Italy by right of inheritance, but by the same title might claim the throne of France! for he is declared to be son of the Duke of Reichstadt (the first Napoleon's son). Then it is added that Louis Napoleon is altogether illegitimate, being the son of a Dutch admiral, which, to judge by his physiognomy, is probable enough; and so gossip runs. I don't think, however, that people are in any mood to pay attention to these mysteries. The *barabba*, or street-lads of this city, do not, at all events, show much respect for them, for they seem certain that war will take place, or insurrection; and the five days of 1848 be renewed. When they see a picket of soldiers they approach, and exclaim, "January, February, and—March"—a piece of pleasantry much relished here.—*Telegraph Correspondent*.

ARRIVAL OF THE BRAZILIAN MAIL.—When the Avon left Bahia a large fire was raging there, and it was believed the city would be burnt down. Rio de Janeiro had been inundated with rains which had damaged some portion of the railway. War was inevitable between the United States and Paraguay, but the Paraguay rivers and forts were so well fortified that it was believed the Americans would be defeated.

NEW INDIAN LOANS.—According to rumour, the British Government will propose a loan of three or four millions in Exchequer Bonds or Bills, and another of six or seven millions for India.

SHARES AND STOCKS.

No. of shares.			Amount of shares.			Amount paid up.			Name of Company.			London.			No. of shares.			Amount of shares.			Amount paid up.			Name of Company.			London.		

THE WESTERN BANK.—A letter from Glasgow, referring to the distress created by this bank, states that the city is steadily but slowly recovering from the disaster. Many of the wealthiest citizens, however, have lost their entire fortunes, while several who were thought able to weather the storm, are now advertising their estates for sale. The saddest fact is, that in the annual report of the directors of the Lunatic Asylum, this failure is assigned as one of the causes of an increase in the number of patients.

MAPPIN'S ELECTRO-SILVER PLATE AND TABLE CUTLERY.

MAPPIN BROTHERS, Manufacturers by Special Appointment to the Queen, are the only Sheffield makers who supply the consumer in London. Their London Show Rooms, 67 and 68, King William-street, London-bridge, contain by far the largest STOCK of ELECTRO-SILVER PLATE and TABLE CUTLERY in the World, which is transmitted direct from their Manufactory, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

	Fiddle	Double	King's	Lily	Pattern.	Thread.	Pattern.	Patt.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
12 Table Forks, best quality...	1 16 0	2 14 0	3 0 0	3 12 0					
12 Table Spoons do.	1 16 0	2 14 0	3 0 0	3 12 0					
12 Dessert Forks do.	1 7 0	2 0 0	2 4 0	2 14 0					
12 Dessert Spoons do.	1 7 0	2 0 0	2 4 0	2 14 0					
12 Tea Spoons do.	0 16 0	1 4 0	1 7 0	1 16 0					
2 Sauce Ladles do.	0 8 0	0 10 0	0 11 0	0 13 0					
1 Gravy Spoon do.	0 7 0	0 10 0	0 11 0	0 13 0					
4 Salt Spoons (gift bowls) do.	0 6 8	0 10 0	0 12 0	0 14 0					
1 Mustard Spoon do.	0 1 8	0 2 0	0 3 0	0 3 6					
1 Pair Sugar Tongs do.	0 3 6	0 5 6	0 6 0	0 7 0					
1 Pair Fish Carvers do.	1 0 0	1 10 0	1 14 0	1 18 0					
1 Butter Knife do.	0 3 0	0 5 0	0 6 0	0 7 0					
1 Soup Ladle do.	0 12 0	0 16 0	0 17 6	0 1 0					
6 Egg Spoons (gift) do.	0 10 0	0 15 0	0 18 0	1 1 0					

Complete Service £10 13 10 15 16 6 17 13 6 21 4 6
Any Article can be had separately at the same Prices.

One Set of 4 Corner Dishes (forming 8 Dishes), 82. 8s.;
One Set of 4 Dish Covers—viz. one 20 inch, one 18 inch, and
two 14 inch—10l. 10s.; Cruet Frame, 4 Glass, 24s.; Full-Size
Tea and Coffee Service, 9l. 10s. A Costly Book of En-
gravings, with prices attached, sent per post on receipt of
12 stamps.

	Ordinary	Medium	Best	Quality.	Quality.	Quality.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Two Dozen Full-Size Table	2 4 0	3 0 0	4 12 0			
Knives, Ivory Handles	1 4 0	1 14 0	3 11 0			
1 Pair Regular Meat Carvers	0 7 6	0 11 0	0 15 0			
One Pair Extra-Sized ditto	0 8 6	0 12 0	0 16 0			
One Pair Poultry Carvers	0 7 6	0 11 0	0 15 0			
One Steel for Sharpening	0 3 0	0 4 0	0 6 0			

Complete Service £4 16 0 6 18 6 9 16 0

Messrs. Mappin's Table Knives still maintain their unrivalled superiority; all their blades, being their own Sheffield manufacture, are of the very first quality, with secure Ivory Handles, which do not come loose in hot water; and the difference in price is occasioned solely by the superior quality and thickness of the Ivory Handles.

MAPPIN BROTHERS, 67 and 68, King William-street, City, London; Manufactory, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

DR. DE JONGH'S

(Knight of the Order of Leopold of Belgium)

LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.

Is universally acknowledged by the most eminent Medical authorities to be immeasurably superior to every other variety. It is not only the most efficacious and the most palatable, but FROM THE SMALLNESS OF THE DOSE REQUIRED AND THE RAPIDITY OF ITS CURATIVE EFFECTS, Dr. de Jongh's Oil will be found in use unquestionably the most economical of all kinds—a fact amply corroborated by the subjoined extracts, selected from innumerable medical opinions:—

"Dr. Granville has found that Dr. de Jongh's Oil produces the desired effect in a shorter time than others."—A. B. GRANVILLE, Esq., M.D., F.R.S., Author of the "Spas of Germany."

"Dr. de Jongh's Oil is stronger than the other kinds of Cod Liver Oil, and consequently a smaller dose is sufficient."—C. RADCLIFFE HALL, Esq., M.D., Consumption Hospital, Torquay.

"I consider that a teaspoonful of Dr. de Jongh's Oil is equal in its effects to a tablespoonful of the Pale Oil."—W. BATES, Esq., M.D., Brighton Dispensary.

"This Oil goes three times as far as any other I have tried."—THOMAS HUNT, Esq., F.R.C.S., Western Dispensary for Diseases of the Skin.

Sold ONLY in Imperial Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s. 9d.; Quarts, 9s., capuled and labelled with Dr. de Jongh's signature, WITHOUT WHICH NONE ARE GENUINE, in the Country by respectable Chemists.

IN LONDON BY HIS SOLE AGENTS,
ANSAL, HARFORD, and CO., 77, Strand, W.C.

NERVOUSNESS, EPILEPSY, MIND

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